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FOURTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY

OF THE

State Board of Health

OF THE

STATE OF VERMONT,

FOR THE

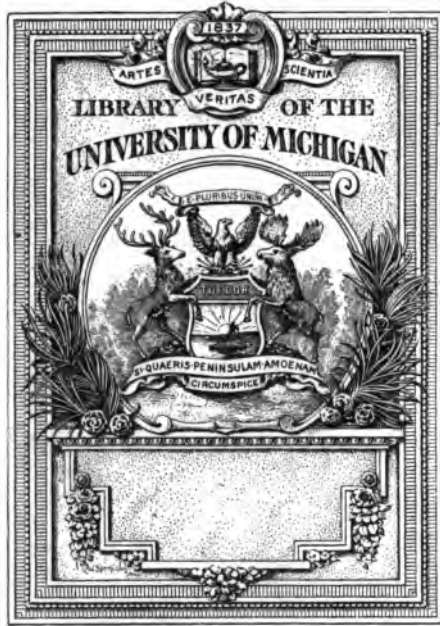
Year Ending September 1st, 1890.



RUTLAND :

THE TUTTLE COMPANY, OFFICIAL PRINTERS.

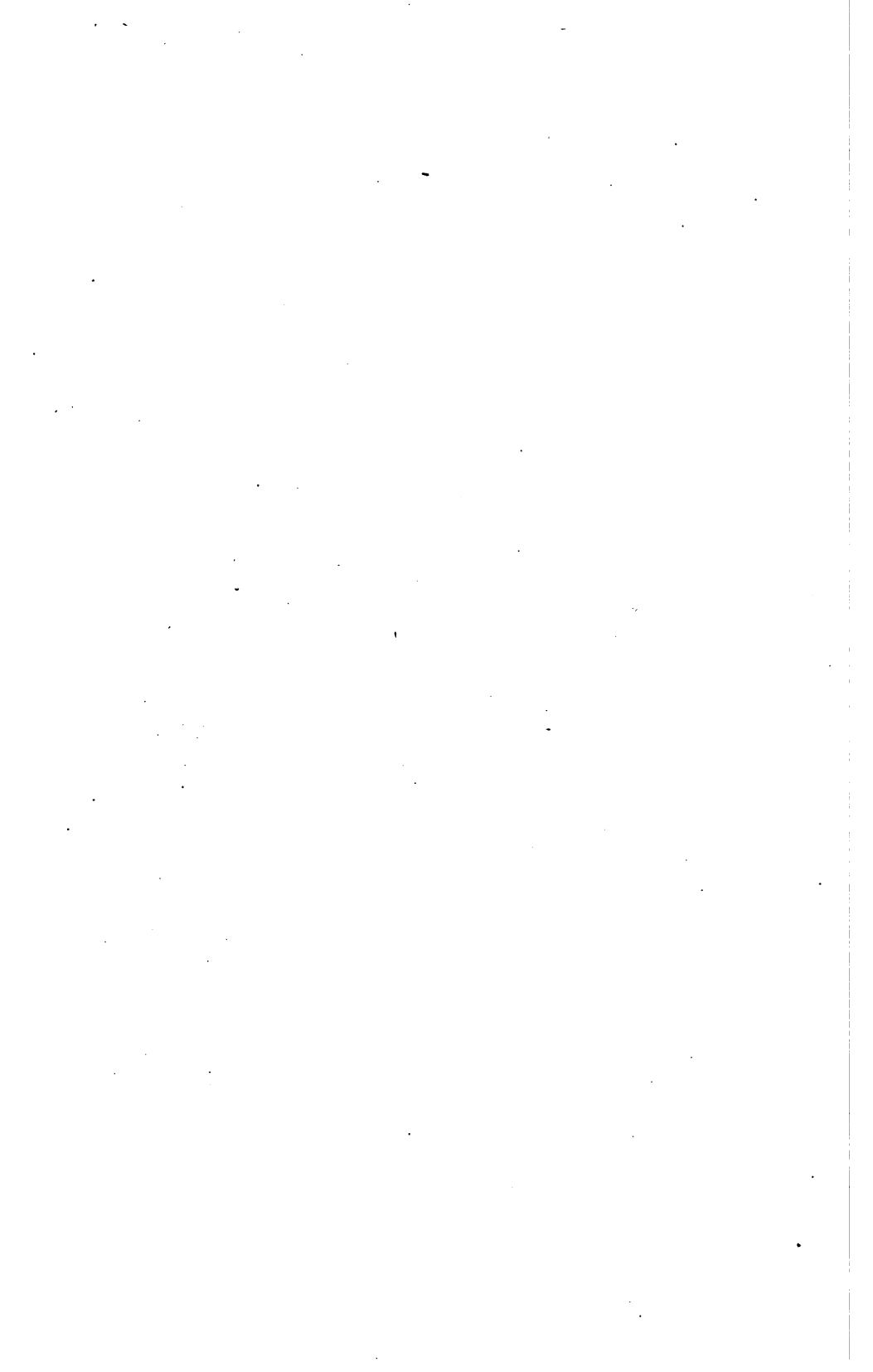
1890.



THE GIFT OF
Board of Health



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FOURTH
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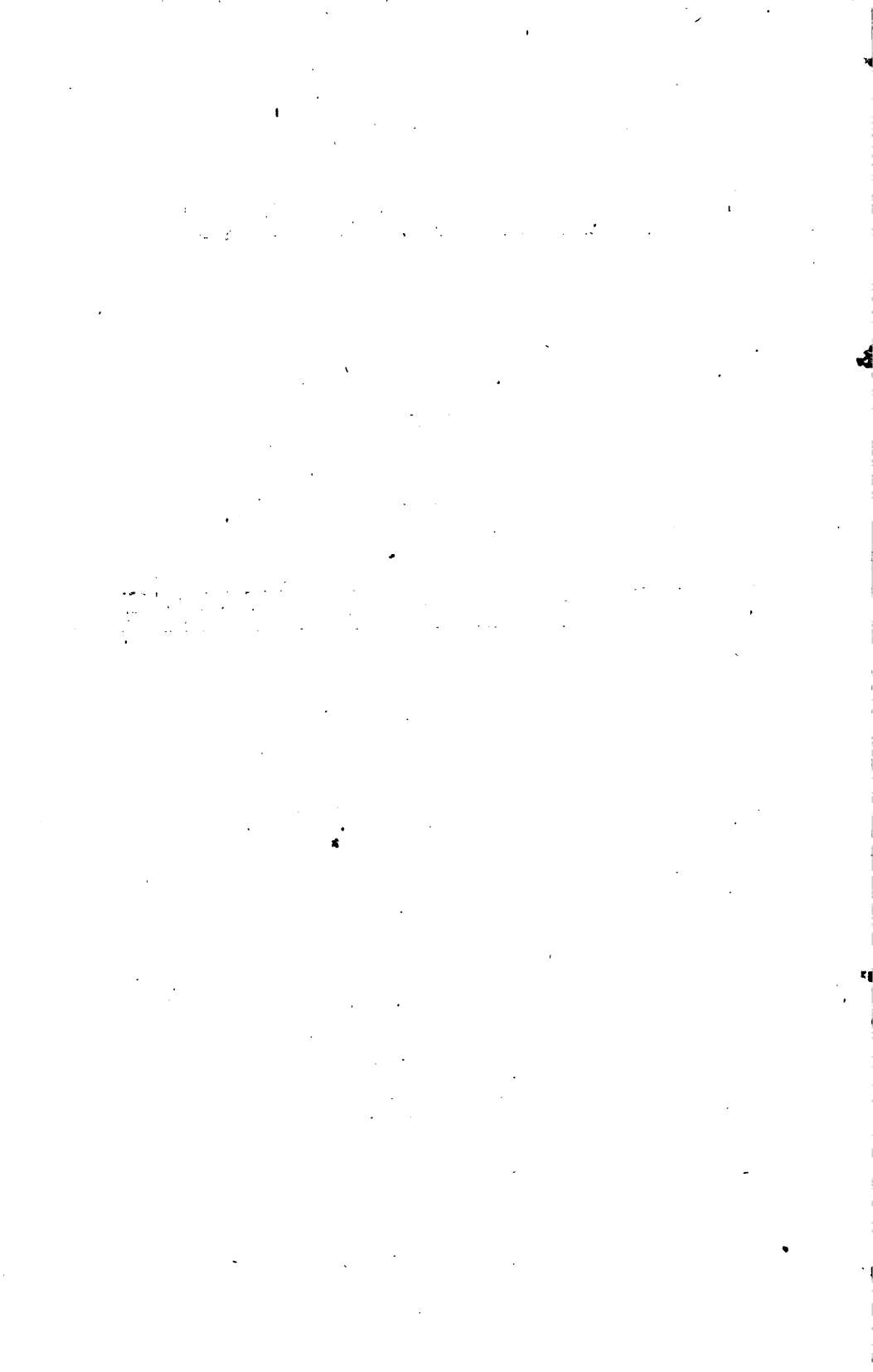
STATE OF VERMONT

FOR THE

Year Ending Sept. 1st, 1890.



RUTLAND:
THE TUTTLE COMPANY, OFFICIAL PRINTERS.
1890.



STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, }
RICHFORD, September 1st, 1890. }

To-His Excellency,

WILLIAM P. DILLINGHAM,
Governor.

SIR :—I have the honor of submitting to you the Fourth Annual Report of the State Board of Health, for the year ending September 1st, 1890.

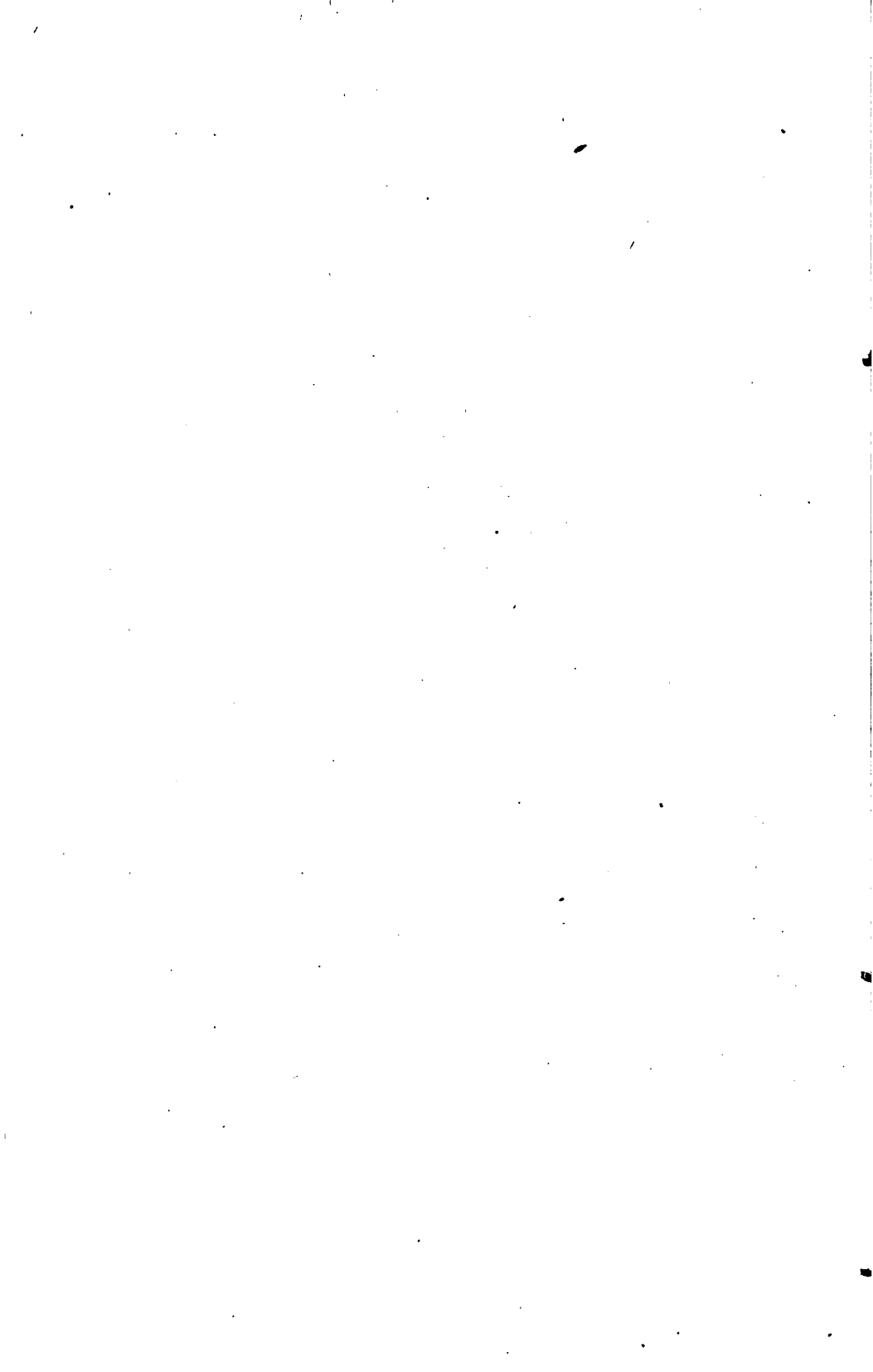
Very Respectfully,
J. H. HAMILTON,
Secretary.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

	Term Expires.
DR. A. H. CHESMORE, Huntington.....	1892
DR. C. S. CAVERLY, Rutland.....	1890
DR. J. H. HAMILTON, Richford.....	1894

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

DR. A. H. CHESMORE, President.
DR. J. H. HAMILTON, Secretary.



No. 93.—AN ACT TO PREVENT THE SPREADING OF
CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AND TO ESTABLISH A
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont :

SECTION 1. The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint three persons as members of a State Board of Health for the State of Vermont. The term of office of said members of said board shall be so arranged that the term of one of them shall expire at the end of every second year. Vacancies in said board shall be filled as they occur by appointment of the Governor, and confirmation by the Senate when next in session.

SEC. 2. The members of said board first named in said appointment shall call a meeting of said members immediately after notice of said appointment shall be received by said members, and said board shall meet within six days after said notice, at the time and place designated in said call, and said board shall organize by electing one of their number to be President of said board, and the board shall also appoint a Secretary, who shall be a reputable practicing physician of this State, and if not one of the members of said board by appointment he shall be a member of the board by virtue of his appointment of Secretary. The said Secretary shall hold his office until said board shall appoint another Secretary, and he shall be the executive officer of said Board of Health.

SEC. 3. The board shall take cognizance of the interests of life and health among the inhabitants of the State ; shall make or cause to be made sanitary investigations and inquiries respecting causes of disease, especially of epidemics, and the means of prevention ; the sources of mortality and the effect of localities, employments, habits, and circumstances of life on the public health. They shall also, when requested, or when in their opinion the sanitary interests of localities require it, advise with municipal officers with regard to the location, drainage, water supply, heating and ventilation of public buildings and the drainage and sewerage of towns and cities.

SEC. 4. The board shall meet biennially on the second Tuesday of the session of the Legislature at Montpelier, and at such other times and places as in the judgment of the board the public health may require, and also whenever the public safety of the people or the stock and domestic animals of the State shall require. The Secretary, as executive officer of the board, shall superintend the performance of the work prescribed in this act, and shall perform such other duties as the board shall direct. He shall also respond to the invitations of boards of selectmen of the several towns, or the mayor of a city, in case of epidemics, contagious diseases or

other unusual sickness, by visiting the locality, or in such other ways as may be deemed best; he shall render the Secretary of State any necessary assistance in preparing for publication the annual registration reports, as required by law, relating to births, deaths and marriages in the State, and he shall make report to the Governor on or before the first day of September in each year of the investigations, discoveries, and recommendations of the board, which report shall be printed and distributed as soon as practicable thereafter in the same manner as other public documents of the State.

SEC. 5. The compensation of members of the board shall be five dollars per day and actual expenses while in the discharge of their official duties, and the Governor and Auditor of Accounts may allow to the Secretary of said board such additional sums for services as Secretary, or for services in times of extraordinary peril, as seem to them reasonable, provided the whole expense of the board, including the Secretary for services rendered and all expenses incurred, shall not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars in any year, except in some extraordinary public peril, in which case the governor may order said board to do and perform service for the safety of the State and her people in excess of said sum, but never to exceed the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars in all in any one year.

SEC. 6. This board shall have authority to promulgate and enforce such regulations for the better preservation of the public health in contagious and epidemic diseases as they shall judge necessary; and any person or persons or corporation neglecting or refusing, after having been duly notified in writing, to comply with the requirements of such regulations shall, upon conviction thereof, pay to the treasurer of the State a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, said offense to be prosecuted for before any court of competent jurisdiction in the State.

SEC. 7. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved November 23, 1886.

Report of the Board of Health.

GENERAL REPORT.

This report comprises the work of the State Board of Health for the year ending September 1, 1890.

The sudden death of Dr. C. L. Allen, late Secretary, in whose hands was much valuable matter and memoranda, not understood by the other members, makes the task a difficult one; besides, very much of interest and value will not appear in the report which otherwise would.

GENERAL WORK OF THE BOARD.

There have been four meetings of the board during the year, the last one at Burlington, July 15th, for the special purpose of reorganization, made necessary by the death of Dr. Allen and the appointment of Dr. C. S. Caverly as member instead. The other meetings have been held at Montpelier for the purpose of consultation with the Sergeant-at-Arms, made necessary by an Act of the Legislature, entitled "An act to improve the ventilation of the State House," the result of which will appear in a special report of the meetings. At these meetings also it has been the object of the board to take cognizance of the interests of the life and health among the inhabitants of the State; to promulgate rules and regulations for the better promotion of the public health in contagious and infectious diseases.

At the organization of the board in 1886 they found that the Legislature had given them very limited power—little more than advisory—and that all that could be done was to work for the education of the public mind upon sanitation in general.

This was the policy adopted and this has constituted the principal part of the work. That progress and advancement has been made in the sanitary sentiment of the public is evinced by the increasing demand for the abatement of nuisances which are believed to be injurious to health; more frequent calls for the organization of local boards of health and a more universal demand for circulars issued by the board giving instruction in regard to measures needful to be taken for the prevention of the spread of contagious and infectious diseases.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD.

After working for four years under many difficulties and disadvantages, and believing that much more good could be accomplished with increased power, the Board of Health would respectfully recommend that additional authority be granted them, like that contained in Senate Bill No. 45, so amended as to relieve it of the objectionable features. Following is the bill. The parts stricken out are inclosed in brackets. Additions are printed in italics.

SENATE 45.

[Introduced by Senator Taft of Chittenden County, and referred to the Special Joint Committee on Health.]

AN ACT DEFINING THE DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE STATE AND LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH, OF HEALTH OFFICERS, AND OTHERS.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont :

SECTION 1. Selectmen of towns, and Aldermen of cities, [Bailiffs and Trustees of incorporated villages], shall be called, and shall act as LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH with duties and powers hereinafter assigned. Selectmen of towns may, if, in their opinion, it is advisable, appoint three suitable persons as a local Board of Health, who shall perform the duties and exercise the powers otherwise assigned to the Selectmen as Boards of Health.

SEC. 2. The health officer, appointed by the State Board of Health, shall be Secretary and Executive Officer of the local Board of Health, and shall hold his office two years, and until another is appointed, unless he resign or is removed for proper cause. He shall make sanitary inspections whenever and wherever he has reason to suppose anything exists which may be detrimental to public health. He shall have authority to enter slaughter-houses, cheese-factories, or any place where any kind of food or drink is manufactured or prepared, kept or sold ; to enter cellars or other premises wherever filth is liable to accumulate. He shall, as executive officer of the local board, give a written order for the destruction, prevention or removal, within a certain specified time, of all nuisances, sources of filth, or causes of sickness. Any one neglecting or refusing to comply with a written order of a health officer shall be subjected to a fine of not less than five dollars nor over one hundred dollars.

The health officer shall receive all certificates of death and give certificates of permission for [burial or] removal, in accordance with rules hereinafter prescribed. He shall transmit immediately

to the Town Clerk all certificates of death. In all cases of death, where no physician has been in attendance, he shall investigate enough to satisfy himself, if possible, of the cause of death, and shall make the certificates usually called for from the attending physician. He shall, upon receiving notice of any case of infectious or contagious disease, dangerous to the public health, investigate enough to determine, if possible, the source or cause of the disease; shall institute such means of prevention and restriction as may be necessary, and shall immediately report all the facts to the Secretary of the State Board of Health. Whenever a communicable disease is prevailing to any considerable extent more than usual, or becomes epidemic, he shall make to the Secretary of the State Board of Health weekly reports concerning that disease during its continuance. And once in each year, during the month of May, shall make to the Secretary of the State Board of Health a general report of the sanitary condition and public health of his town.

For each certificate of permission for [burial or] removal, (to be given in duplicate if necessary) he shall receive twenty-five cents, to be paid by the person using the certificate. [For each case of investigation and certificate of death, where there was no physician in attendance, he shall receive fifty cents.] If the local board shall consider a post mortem examination necessary, to determine the cause of death, the health officer, or other persons employed to make such examination, shall be entitled to five dollars, to be paid from the treasury of the town, upon presentation of bill approved by the local board. For each report to the Secretary of the State Board of Health, of contagious disease, he shall be paid fifteen cents; and for each annual report he shall receive one dollar; each to be paid by the Town Treasurer. For sanitary inspections and services in general, he shall receive such compensation as the local board shall consider just and reasonable.

SEC. 3. The local boards, whether consisting of the Selectmen, or of persons appointed by them, or of Aldermen of cities, [or of Bailiffs or Trustees of villages,] or of committees on public health appointed by them, shall have authority to abate all nuisances, destroy, prevent or remove all sources of filth or causes of sickness; to place a quarantine upon any house or premises in which any infectious or contagious disease detrimental to public health may exist. They shall have power to compel the thorough disinfection of premises where infective diseases have existed, and of persons who have been infected. They shall destroy by fire (if not susceptible of disinfection otherwise) furniture, carpets, bedding, clothing, and other personal goods of persons dying of [consumption, cancer, scrofula,] syphilis, cholera, small-pox, diphtheria, scarlatina, and other infective diseases, *and the property so destroyed shall be paid for by the town.*

They may order the health officer to make sanitary inspection, and may order post mortem examinations to be made. They shall adopt the regulations promulgated by the State Board of Health, which are hereby declared to be legal enactments.

They shall have authority to call on Sheriffs, Constables, and the police, whenever it may be necessary to have assistance in the proper discharge of their duties.

SEC. 4. The State Board of Health shall appoint a health officer in each city, or town [and incorporated village] in the State, and shall give him a certificate signed by each member of the board.

The Secretary of the State Board of Health shall receive the reports from health officers concerning infectious and contagious diseases, and shall immediately take such action upon them as may be necessary, [either by visiting the localities personally, or requesting another member of the board to visit them, or by writing, or sending circulars.] He shall also receive the annual reports of the health officers, which he shall embody in substance or in full in his annual report. He shall receive from the Town Clerks the returns of births, marriages and deaths, and from the County Clerks the returns of divorces, and at an extra expense to the State, not exceeding one hundred dollars, shall prepare therefrom such tables and append such remarks and observations thereto as may make those returns most useful.

This Registration report shall be printed on or before the first day of September of each year, and shall be distributed in the same manner as other public documents of the State. After having compiled the tables, he shall transmit to the Secretary of State, for indexing, binding and preservation, the returns received from the Town and County Clerks.

He shall prepare and send to the health officers suitable blanks upon which to return to him their reports of infectious and contagious diseases and their weekly reports of epidemics. He shall also prepare and send to each physician in the State suitable blanks upon which the physicians can make out and send to the health officer reports of infectious and contagious diseases. Also blanks for the returns of births and deaths.

SEC. 5. Town Clerks shall receive, number and record in the order in which they are received, all certificates of births, marriages and deaths in their respective towns, and the record shall show when it was made. They shall annually, in the month of January, beginning with January, 1890, transmit to the Secretary of the State Board of Health a certified copy of such record made for the year next preceding the first day of January. Town Clerks shall receive the same compensation for furnishing such copy as they have heretofore received for furnishing the same for the use of the Secretary of State.

SEC. 6. The Clerks of the County Courts shall, on the last day of December in each year, beginning with the last day of December, 1889, make returns to the Secretary of the State Board of Health of the number of divorces granted, together with the causes for which they were granted, in their respective counties during the year ending on that day.

[SEC. 7. No dead body of a human being shall be buried or cremated, or removed from town without a certificate of permission from the health officer. The penalty for such burial, cremation, or removal without such certificate of permission shall be a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, or confinement in the County Jail for a term of not less than one month, or both, at the discretion of the Justice.]

SEC. 8. Any physician, midwife or other person who may be present at the time of the birth of a child shall, as soon as possible thereafter, report to the Town Clerk, the date, place of birth of each child, the sex, names, birthplaces and residence of the parents, and occupation of the father. Any person failing to furnish such information to the Town Clerk shall forfeit and pay to the town a sum not less than five dollars.

Any physician who has attended a deceased person shall at once fill out a certificate, giving the date of death, the name, age, sex and social relation of the deceased, the cause of death, place of death, occupation, if a male over fifteen years of age, place of birth, and names of parents of the deceased. [For this certificate the physician shall be entitled to a fee of twenty-five cents to be paid by the person using the certificate.] This certificate is to be forwarded to the health officer, who shall upon the receipt of it, give a certificate of permission for [burial or] removal under proper restrictions and safeguards. When no physician has been in attendance, the head of the household, or the next in kin, shall notify the health officer, who, after proper investigation, shall issue the certificate of death, and the certificate of permission for [burial or] removal.

All cases of stillbirths shall be reported and recorded among the deaths, with all the facts which are to be reported in other cases of death. *The fee for making the reports of births and deaths shall be fifteen cents each.*

SEC. 9. Any householder in whose dwelling there shall occur a case of infectious or contagious disease, dangerous to the public health, shall immediately give notice to the health officer. Any physician who knows or suspects that any person to whom he has been called is sick, or has died of any communicable disease, dangerous to the public health, shall at once report to the health officer the place where such case exists, the name, degree of virulence and cause or source of the disease, if it can be determined.

Any householder or physician failing to give timely notice to the health officer of the existence of such disease shall be subject to a fine of not less than ten dollars.

SEC. 10. The bodies of persons dead of small-pox, Asiatic cholera, typhus fever, or yellow fever, as soon as the evidences of death are conclusive, must be wrapped in a sheet saturated in a solution of a half pound of chloride of zinc in a gallon of water, or a solution of bichloride of mercury of not less than two per cent. strength, enclosed in a proper coffin or box, and buried immediately, with as

little publicity as possible. Such bodies shall not be allowed to be put into any hearse or public vehicle, and shall not be removed from town to town, or be brought into the State.

The bodies of those who have died of diphtheria, scarlatina, typhoid fever, erysipelas, or other infectious, contagious or communicable disease, shall be prepared and buried in the same manner, with as little delay and publicity as possible. But these latter bodies may be removed and transported, provided that the bodies be prepared as before, and incased in an air-tight zinc, copper or lead lined coffin or in an air-tight iron casket, and enclosed in a strong wooden box, the space between the coffin and the outside box being filled with sawdust saturated with one of the solutions before mentioned; provided also that the health officer gives a certificate with the cause of death clearly stated, and the undertaker gives an affidavit as to how the body has been prepared and encased, and the health officer of the place to which the body is consigned shall give consent to its receipt.

Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine of not less than ten dollars.

SEC. 11. The performance of duty of local boards, health officers and others may be enforced by a writ of mandamus at the instance of any member of the State Board of Health.

SEC. 12. Any physician, midwife, nurse or other person neglecting to give the required certificate or notice of a birth or death, shall be subject to a fine of not less than five dollars.

SEC. 13. If a town clerk fails to comply with the requirements of the law in relation to making returns of births, marriages and deaths, to the Secretary of the State Board of Health, he shall be fined not less than twenty dollars.

SEC. 14. The Secretary of the State Board of Health shall cause prosecutions to be commenced in the name of the State in an action on the case, founded on this chapter, to recover any penalty or forfeiture imposed by the provisions therein, whose recovery is not otherwise provided for.

SEC. 15. All acts or parts of acts incompatible with the foregoing provisions are hereby repealed.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

FIRST MEETING.

The State Board of Health met pursuant to a call of the President, in Montpelier on Wednesday, Nov. 6th, 1889.

The Sergeant-at-Arms was present and the discussion of the question of ventilation of the State House was taken up, it being the special object of the meeting.

No progress was reported since the meeting of June 20th.

The Secretary had had correspondence with the "Smead Warming and Ventilating Co." in regard to the proposed work. A motion was finally made and carried instructing the Secretary to invite an expert from this company to meet Mr. Hopkins, the expert of a company from Bridgeport, Conn., who had previously made an examination with a view to submitting plans and specifications. After some conversation regarding the general work, the Board adjourned subject to call of the President.

SECOND MEETING.

The State Board of Health met, pursuant to a call of the President, at Montpelier, Thursday, January 9, 1890.

The principal purpose of this meeting was to consider with the Sergeant-at-Arms the question of the "improvement of the ventilation of the State House." Mr. Hopkins, an expert in ventilation from Bridgeport, Conn., and J. B. Badger, Vice-President and an expert of Smead Warming and Ventilating Co. of Boston, Mass., were present at this meeting. These gentlemen spent much time in examination of the building, the relative position and size of the rooms, the probable cost of excavation preparatory to laying of pipes, etc., etc. Practically there was no disagreement as to the method of this work. After much discussion of the subject it was decided and agreed that plans and specifications should be prepared and submitted by the experts to a meeting to be called by the President when notified that they were ready. Adjourned.

THIRD MEETING.

Pursuant to a call of the President, a meeting of the Board of Health was held at Montpelier on Thursday, April 10th, 1890.

This meeting was called in accordance with the arrangement of the last meeting for the purpose of examining the plans and specifications which were to be presented by the experts, Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Badger. Mr. Hopkins had previously sent his to the Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. Badger presented his in person. The estimated cost of everything complete was nearly \$10,000. After considerable discussion of the question it was left with the Sergeant-at-Arms to complete, and with what result his report will show. After finishing this part of the work a communication was read by the Secretary from Supervising Surgeon General John B. Hamilton, upon the question of the prevention of the introduction of leprosy into the United States. This called for the appointment of an inspector by the Board of Health, and Dr. J. H. Hamilton was appointed inspector for Vermont. The secretary next read a letter from the Hon. William Tebb, chairman of the "Special Royal Commission Committee," London. This communication called for a report of the experience of the State Board of Health upon this highly important public health question of compulsory vaccination, etc., etc. Dr. J. H. Hamilton was asked and consented to make such report.

FOURTH MEETING.

The State Board of Health met, pursuant to a call of the President, at the Van Ness House in Burlington, July 14, 1890.

This meeting was called for the reorganization of the Board. The death of Dr. C. L. Allen, late Secretary, created a vacancy which was filled by the appointment of Dr. C. S. Caverly for the unexpired term of Dr. Chesmore, promoted to vacancy occasioned by Dr. Allen's death.

Dr. A. H. Chesmore was re-elected President and Dr. J. H. Hamilton, Secretary. After the organization was completed, resolutions upon the death of Dr. Allen were introduced and passed.

The next business considered was that of publishing the "Sanitary Visitor." It was deemed inexpedient on account of the cost, the appropriation being too small to allow of it. It was therefore voted to discontinue, for the present at least, the publication of the "Sanitary Visitor."

COPIES OF LETTERS.

THE ROYAL VACCINATION COMMISSION,
REDE HALL, BURSTOW, SURREY, Oct. 22, 1889. }

SIR—You are probably aware that a Royal Commission to inquire into the results of compulsory vaccination has been appointed by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, and is now taking evidence in London under the Presidency of the Right Honorable Lord Herschell. As the experience of the United States is considered to be of great value, I shall feel obliged to you, if you will kindly send me copies of your State laws concerning vaccination, the regulations and reports of your Boards of Health, also particulars of any cases of injury or death alleged to be due to vaccination, whether occurring in your own or in adjacent States and if attributed to the use of animal or humanized virus, with any other information calculated to elicit the true facts on this important public health question.

Enclosed you will find copy of the terms of reference and names of the commissioners.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM TEBB,

President Special (Royal Commission) Committee.

To the Secretary

Board of Health,

Montpelier, Vt., U. S. A.

ROYAL VACCINATION COMMISSION,
REDE HALL, BURSTOW, SURREY, 15th February, 1890. }

DEAR SIR—In December last I had the honor to address a communication to the President of your Board of Health calling attention to the Royal Vaccination Commission appointed by Her Majesty's Government and now taking evidence in London under the Presidency of Lord Herschell.

Not having received a reply and the matter being considered in interests of the public health both important and urgent, I now take the liberty of calling your attention to the subject. I may mention that this is the first time since Edward Jenner proclaimed

his discovery that it has been submitted to a complete and exhaustive investigation. About 30 witnesses have already been heard and thus far only one from the United States, viz.: Dr. Ranch of Chicago. Other witnesses are, however, expected from your country, and our Special Committee are anxious as far as possible to learn the results of your experience. I shall be glad therefore to receive copies of your official reports or any information you may be able to furnish as to the comparative safety and advantages of bovine and arm to arm virus; details of small-pox epidemics with the number of vaccinated and unvaccinated small-pox cases; particulars of accidents following the operation, and any other information calculated to throw light on this much debated but highly important public health question. The favor of an early answer will much oblige.

I am, dear sir,

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM TEBB,

Chairman of the Special (Royal Commission) Committee.

To the Secretary of State, Montpelier, Vt.

P. S.—Enclosed please find names of Commissioners and order of reference.

RUTLAND, VT., June 3d, 1890.

Hon. William Tebb, Chairman, &c.

DEAR SIR—I have the honor to transmit the accompanying report. It was written by Dr. J. H. Hamilton, who was one of the sanitary inspectors appointed by the U. S. government for Vermont, during the small pox epidemic in Canada in 1884-5. The delay in forwarding it has been caused by the Secretary's absence from the State.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN, Secretary.

To the Hon. William Tebb, Chairman of the Special (Royal Commission) Committee:

SIR—In response to yours of Feb. 15th, 1890, addressed to the State Board of Health of Vermont, we have the honor to transmit herewith the following report upon the highly important public health question of compulsory vaccination, &c., &c.

Referring to terms of reference as contained in circular enclosed:

1.—As "to the effects of vaccination in reducing the prevalence of, and mortality from, small pox," we can report many instances of the *favorable* effects of vaccination in protecting persons against small pox. Where families of five or more persons were vaccinated five days after exposure and no other precautionary measures taken, all but one escaped the disease; in the one both worked together, greatly modifying and lessening the severity of small-pox.

One member reports a score or more of similar instances.

The quarantine on the Canadian frontier; together with the enforcement of vaccination during the epidemic of 1884-5 and its *good results* in checking and preventing the introduction of the disease into the United States is *proof positive* of the protecting influence of vaccination. Children vaccinated before or during dentition are not well protected, and should be re-vaccinated before ten years of age.

2.—“What means other than vaccination can be used for diminishing the prevalence of small-pox, and how far such means could be relied upon in place of vaccination.” Inoculation, as a means for the diminishing of the prevalence of small-pox, in our experience and observation has not been satisfactory. Many and most of the cases have died from the procedure; it does not lessen the danger of contagion.

3.—“The objection made to vaccination on the ground of injurious effects alleged to result therefrom, and the nature and extent of any injurious effects which do, in fact, so result.” We are unable to report any bad results from vaccination, other than unhealthy sores, sloughing in their nature, attributable usually to unhealthy blood in the individual, arm to arm vaccination, decomposed virus, etc., which is avoidable as a rule.

During the small-pox epidemic in Canada in 1884-5, there were vaccinated and re-vaccinated at the various quarantine ports in Vermont more than 10,000 persons, by “Sanitary Inspectors,” who were threatened with prosecution should any damage be done, but none was ever reported. The vaccine was the non-humanized, and furnished by the U. S. government.

4.—“Whether any, and if so, what means should be adopted for preventing or lessening the ill effects, if any, resulting from vaccination, and whether, and if so, by what means, vaccination with animal vaccine should be further facilitated as a part of public vaccination.” We should report in favor of animal virus and that it be furnished by “General Local Government” as furnishing the best means for obtaining reliable vaccine, believing that no ill effects will ever arise when animal lymph is used—fresh—free from all decomposition, that there be no danger from blood poisoning.

5.—“Whether any alteration should be made in the arrangements and proceedings for securing the performance of vaccination, and in particular in the provisions of the Vaccination Acts with respect to prosecution for non-compliance with the law.”

We hope, at the session of the Legislature this year, to have some changes made in the law so that we shall not be so limited in our authority. We can now act only in case of an outbreak of the disease.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. H. CHESMORE,
J. H. HAMILTON.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF NEW YORK, }
ALBANY, Jan. 6th, 1890. }

SIR—Six cases of typhus fever, occurring among immigrants who arrived in New York the 5th of December last in the steamship "Westernland," are reported from New York city. I send you a list of the steerage passengers of the "Westernland," who have scattered in various directions. The places to which they were booked could not be obtained. In case of typhus breaking out in your jurisdiction, it was thought the list might be an aid.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

LEWIS BALOH, Secretary.

To C. L. Allen, M. D., Sec. State Board of Health of Vermont.

NAMES OF STEERAGE PASSENGERS

ARRIVED ON S. S. WESTERLAND, DECEMBER 5, 1889.

Nicol Munchausen,	Miss W. Rosman,	Julius Keller,
Anna Munchausen,	Fritz Mansbach,	Elie Gillotan,
Miss Anna Warmuth,	Ludwig Reiben,	Emil Frank,
Adam Froeder,	Leon Emplaineourt,	Magd Grabenstetter,
Johanna Kreutzer,	Felice Emplaineourt,	Anna J. Dessel,
Kath Rhein,	Marie Emplaineourt,	Eugenie Dessel,
Nicol Oedamer,	Amelia Emplaineourt,	Marie Dessel,
Jak Gepp,	Sylva Libert,	Jules Dessel,
Heinr Pottoll,	Polonie Libert,	Julia Dessel,
Jos. A. Lieblien,	Thos Delvaux,	Joseph Dessel,
Karl Kee,	Babara Heil,	Adolf Antonie,
Fred Herold,	Gustave Williams,	Therese Klug,
Johann Kach,	Marg Herrmann,	Ludwig Schmidlapp,
Joseph Schopp,	Valentine Schmidt,	Karl Klink,
Ludwig Rieger,	Franz Goss,	Herm Kaspereitis,
Ernst Diller,	Jan Polkowski,	Marie Kaspereitis,
Gustave Diller,	Dominique Mariage,	Klara Kaspereitis,
Elias Gutentag,	Bartol Wasmick,	Anicka Kaspereitis,
Nikolaus Dewes,	Andr Klimck,	C. Maria Kaspereitis,
Magd Dewes,	Joseph Sawatske,	Wilhelm Keller,
Elise Dewes,	Ant Goleck,	Therese Fieser,
Mrs. E. Weyrauch,	H. Bohnen,	Emma Fieser,
Paul Weyrauch,	Ossiam Reb,	Adolf Fedzig,
Ewald Weyrauch,	Nikol Meyers,	Theodore Fieser,
Hermann Weyrauch,	Fritz Rachbauer,	Heinr Burmeister,
Bertha Mosenholl,	Adam Meister,	Ludwig Bender,
J. G. Kohle,	Heinr Frohlich,	Marie Platz,
Dorethea Maul,	Mrs. Christ Taubert,	August Wenz,
Peter Nertens,	Miss Emma Taubert,	Chas. Walter,
Rudolf Willems,	Susannan Gallopp,	Bronislaw Walecka,
Ferdinand Willems,	Mathilde Kreeb,	Bronislaw (infant),
Maria Willems,	Marie Kalben,	Desire Delphante,
Syballa Willems,	Marie Kanzler,	Joseph Delphante,
Isreal Quartner,	W. Owen,	Simon Blaustein,
Chaim Quartner,	Jon Goldfarb,	Beta Blaustein,
Moses Quartner,	Christopher Wyss,	Beta Blaustein,
Marjus Mendelsohn,	Jacob Hartmann,	Abraham Blaustein,

Abraham Mendelsohn,
Hirsch Mendelsohn,
Moses Mendelsohn,
Charosa Rabinowcz,
Blume Rabinowcz.
Moses Landowsky,
Sal Dubowe,
Perl Eliowik,
Moses Heimlich,
Selde Kaplan,
Riwke Margulies,
Samuel Margulies,
David Margulies,
Mor Schoonbrunn,
Alter Dan,
Henre Kahn,
Aschen Kahn,
Leic Kahn,
Scheina Kahn,
Josef Netzberg,
Hubert Sturges,
Joh Wagner,
Jos Horsmann,
Wilh Ter Eick,
Wilh Schmolle,
Leonard Staackweg,
Jos. H. Schnabel,
Henri Sheppard,
Max Carlstensen,
Ernst Rouch,
Bauer Czilli,
Maria Menzel,
Ignaz Gaal,
Istvan Previge,
Heinrich Bruckner,
Friederika Bruckner,
Bernhard Carl,
Karl Jerg,
Philippe Maringer,
Marie Maringer,
Theophile Herr,
Kath Kaufmann,
Joh Undehemd,
Jean Koenig,
Nicol Robert,
Peter Fessler,
Ludwig Stolz,
Aug. Litterst,
Michel Vincentz,
Theodore Elter,
George Heintz,
Marie Hoffman,
Helene Muntzinger,
Eduard Lorch,
Mrs. Conrad Breitbach,
Ida Wimmers,
Ida Wimmers,
Ferd Engel,
Jul Arnstein,
Nichol Steichen,
Christ Killins,
Simon Kahn,
George Gleis,
Erldhard Damen,

Otto Hyden,
Rupert Tanninger,
Theodore Deneve,
Nicholas Craybox,
Hortense Debarggrove,
David Lomess,
Geo. A. Howard,
H. B. Rojers,
Arnil Manny,
Abraham Manny,
Thos. Martin,
Frank Brown,
Will Jackman,
Lizzie Jackmann,
Thos. Spinner,
Heinr Gerhard,
Will Smith,
Oris Frasier,
Fred Buck,
Yetty Hertz,
Rachel Hertz (infant),
Fanny Auerbach,
Annil Auerbach,
Barnett Auerbach,
Rebecca Auerbach,
Jacob Auerbach,
Herm Carden,
Emil Boremann,
Sigismund Strauss,
W. McGimmers,
Wilh Adolf Stark,
Math Kopf,
Vincenz Brunner,
Ernesto Nalli,
Clemente Salvi,
Carlo Bertoni,
Agostina Cosso,
Joh Kuler,
Joh Uhlmann,
Jak Brenzikofer,
Marie Brenzikofer,
Elizabeth Brenzikofer,
Marie Brenzikofer,
Franz Brenzikofer,
Rosa Brenzikofer,
Aug Wulauer,
Pauline Wulauer,
Karl Wulauer,
Maria Geiser,
Aug. Bariletti,
Maria Rigo,
Cornelio Rigo,
Catherina Zampine,
Zuido Zampine,
Guiseppe Zampino,
Giovanni Andreoli,
Domenico Perrochi,
Luigi Tossi,
Mareo Matalini,
Davide Betti,
Pietro Bani,
Mathias Klippel,
Kanyo Istvan,
Reita Scovinez,

Some Blaustein,
Rachel Blaustein,(infant),
James S. Smith,
F. Fennele,
Leopold Seelmann,
Arthur Wilson,
Alfred Warmout,
Josef Mannoyer,
Leon Dohout,
Marie Dohout,
Jeanette Mahent,
Leonie Leclercq,
Alexie Gaie,
Giovanni Cordon,
Oswaldo Fernburn,
Bortolo de Sandre,
Margherite Andreotha,
Archilary Guistina,
Senione de Luca,
Baldassarre Bonetti,
Giacomo Tamburin,
Guiseppe Manegus,
Francor Cassella,
Margherita Cassella,
Nannie Pester,
Albert Pester,
Martha Pester,
Mil Pester,
Mat Pester,
Balthasar Trumpi,
Louis Staouet,
Karl Albert,
Bernh Lerch,
Wilhelm Bautz,
Elie Rosenbaum,
Elie Palic,
Marjus Starkmann,
Markus Starkmann,
Henri Rosenbaum,
Janos Kabey,
Janos Kabey,
Michely Kabey,
Mali Grunwald,
Pepi, Mittelmann,
Gittel Fut,
Pepi Fried,
Rose Roth,
Illma Klein,
Ignatz Schnitter,
Therese Schitter,
Israel Traub,
Abraham Traub,
Jacob Traub,
Lipke Traub,
Isaac Traub,
Leopold Traub,
Isaac Silberstein,
Lina Friedberger,
Abraham Besen,
Hanqah Wallach,
Leah Wallach,
Mayer Wallach,
Jethy Quartner,

RUTLAND, Aug. 30.

To the Selectmen, Pittsfield :

GENTLEMEN—By mail I send you several copies of Circular No. 4, as I understand diphtheria is prevailing to some extent in your town.

You can prevent more cases occurring, and you alone have the power to do it. I also send some copies of Circular No. 5. Please consult Section 3924, Revised Statutes. Then if you will in a full meeting of your board vote to adopt the accompanying regulations as *the* regulations which you are ordered to make you will have complete control of all such cases. Write across each copy as I have on the one enclosed and distribute them throughout the town. Circulate No. 4 among the neighbors of the families in which diphtheria may be present. If you wish any more of either circulars I will furnish any number.

You had better appoint a medical man as health officer and direct him to the regulations enforced.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN, Secretary.

PITTSFIELD, August 31st, 1889.

C. L. Allen, M. D.

DEAR SIR—May I trouble you with a few questions relating to an epidemic of diphtheria that has broken out in our village. All cases within one hundred and fifty feet of each other, and considerable speculation exists as to the cause. The first case was moderately severe and soon recovered. The next case, in same house, a child four years old, had croupal form and died in six days. The next two cases were two little girls about eight or nine years taken about same time; one died in four days, the other still lives, with prospect of recovery. No more cases. Sanitary regulations have been observed as best we could. Now as to the cause: out in a shed back of the barn on premises where first case appeared there is stored several tons of phosphate, or the commercial fertilizer used by farmers. The odor from this shed has been the remark at times all summer by the neighbors. Now is there danger of disease from such a source? Then another speculation is that the two last cases result from contagion from first case after he was so far recovered as to be out of doors and at play. The patient stayed indoors during convalescence till he was considered quite well, and no further treatment necessary and was allowed to go, and played croquet on the park with the same three children that next were taken sick. Is it probable that the last cases resulted from contact with the first one recovered, or did they result from same cause as first, only a little later in developing. None of the last cases saw the first while sick. I have another matter under consideration, and that is the water used by these families.

I think the families that have the above cases use well water; while most of the rest of the neighbors have running water. I have not especially examined the water of these wells; but think from their location near foul places, there may be danger from being contaminated by surface water. There are no indications of a further spread of the disease at present, and being desirous of resorting to every means possible to stop it at once, thought perhaps you might suggest some measures not already employed that would be beneficial. An answer to above questions and any advice you may please to give will be gratefully received and appreciated. Yours very respectfully,

C. W. BRIGHAM.

RUTLAND, Sept. 2d, 1889.

C. W. Brigham, M. D.

DEAR DOCTOR—Your letter of August 31st received. It would seem probable that the first case of diphtheria owed its origin to the use of the well water, and the others were the result of contagion from that one. Possibly, of course, they all might have taken the disease directly from the drinking water. I hardly think the fertilizer had anything to do with causing the disease.

I enclose a circular (No. 4,) issued two years ago, but it contains about what I should write now. I sent on Saturday fifty of them to Mr. Chedel to distribute among the neighbors. I also sent to him fifty copies of circular No. 5 and wrote a letter to the selectmen.

I use now Labarraque's Solution to wash the plaintiff after convalescence. Boiling for clothing. For disinfecting the room the sulphur fumigation should have moisture with it. Generate steam in some way in the room with the burning sulphur.

Early notification, complete isolation, perfect disinfection are the most important sanitary measures.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN, Secretary.

EASTON, PA., March 10, 1890.

Mr. Postmaster :

DEAR SIR—I write you for information in regard to the Vermont Medical College of Rutland, Vt., whether it is a chartered college and whether it has all the necessary departments of medicine to become a practical physician.

Please answer as soon as convenient and do not mention my name to Mr. G. Dutton or any of the officials, as I am about to enter

and they might perhaps think I am inquiring into the matter a little deeper than I ought to. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain

Yours confidentially,

AMBROSE M. LANGEL,
442 Northampton St., Easton, Pa.

RUTLAND, VT.

DEAR SIR—The Postmaster of this place has referred your letter to me for answer. The Vermont Medical College has had a *quasi*-legal standing. It is run by Dr. Dutton, who is the whole faculty. He picks students mainly in Boston, mostly women, and comes here and gives one or more lectures, goes through the farce of conferring the degree of M. D., gives diplomas, and returns to Boston. One year the students staid only 24 hours. I send you a paper containing the decision of the Supreme Court.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN, Secretary.

BARNARD, VT., Oct. 7, 1889.

Hon. Chas. L. Allen, State Board of Health:

DEAR SIR—I was called upon to-day for a certified copy from the Town Clerk of a person's death with my own name as attending physician certified also. I could not get it from the clerk, as he says he has not been notified by the District Clerk, and will not be until December next. Now as I am not familiar with Vermont laws, I ask you if you have a law requiring the physician to fill out blanks supplied by the Board of Health and deposit with the Town Clerk. Massachusetts, where I have resided, requires such action on the physician's part. Does Vermont require the same? Please inform me in what year I shall find laws on this, and oblige. Our town of Barnard should have a local Board of Health.

Yours respectfully,

A. JEWETT.

RUTLAND, Oct. 11, 1889.

A. Jewett, M. D.:

DEAR DOCTOR—Your letter of Oct. 7 duly received.

There is no law in this State requiring a physician to make out a certificate of death or cause of death. But the "National Association of General Baggage Agents" established last winter a rule which went into operation September 1, 1889, by which no railroad

will receive for transportation a dead human body unless accompanied by a transit permit from the Board of Health, or proper health authority. In certain cases this "transit permit" must have the approval of the "State Board of Health, and the consent of the health authority of the locality to which the corpse is consigned."

If you will look at the first number of the Sanitary Visitor, January 7, 1889, you will see what the State Board of Health proposed, and what we hope to accomplish next year. The selectmen are in reality local Boards of Health. See Rev. Laws, Secs. 3919 to 3925 inclusive.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN,

Secretary.

OFFICE OF DR. J. L. HORSEY,
FERNANDINA, FLA., December 15th, 1889. }

Postmaster, Rutland, Vt.:

DEAR SIR.—Will you kindly inform me, 1st. If such an institution as the *Vermont Medical College* exists in your city? 2d. If so, who is at the head of it, and is it a legally incorporated college under the laws of Vermont?

Any information that you can give me on the subject will be esteemed a favor.

Yours very truly,

J. L. HORSEY, M. D.,

Sec'y Florida Med. Exam. Board.

RUTLAND, VT., Dec. 1889.

J. L. Horsey, M. D., Secretary Florida Med. Exam. Board, Fernandina, Fla.:

DEAR DOCTOR—The Postmaster of this place has handed me the letter from you with a request that I answer it.

A general law of this State authorizes the organization of societies for the promotion of religious, charitable, scientific or literary objects. A man calling himself Geo. Dutton, A. M., M. D., came here three years ago from Boston and, with two or three other cranks like himself, established the "Vermont Medical College" under this general law, as they could organize nothing of the kind by Massachusetts law. They worded their "constitution" so adroitly that an ex-judge of our Supreme Court has certified that it is a legally established institution and has a right to issue certificates or diplomas, and confer any degree of title which it sees fit. But he told me, however, personally, that its diploma would confer no right to practice medicine in this state.

Dr. Dutton is, I believe, a graduate of a literary college, and of a regular medical college, but I do not know of what college. He is a smart fellow, and comprises the whole "faculty" of the "Vermont Medical College" and last summer gave, I think, half a dozen lectures to about as many students, this being the largest number of lectures and to the largest class he has had. He is a "mind cure" doctor and picks up his students in Boston, mostly women, and comes here with them, stays a week or two, and goes through the farce of giving diplomas.

The profession here were, at first, inclined to laugh at the whole thing and consider it a farce too ridiculous for notice. But now they look at it in a more serious light, thinking that, in other States where the facts were not known, the diplomas might be considered evidence that the possessor had really had some medical education. We hope before long to have the thing stopped by the courts or the Legislature.

I send you a copy of the First Annual Report of the State Board of Health, which contains the law regulating the practice of medicine in this State.

Respectfully,

DR. C. L. ALLEN,

Secretary State Board of Health.

FERNANDINA, FLA., Dec. 30, 1889.

Dr. C. L. Allen, Rutland, Vt.:

DEAR DOCTOR—Your valued favor of the 25th is received, and I thank you for the information given relative to the Vermont Medical College. At a meeting of our Medical Examining Board on the 12th inst., we had an application from Dr. Catherine Carradice (?) for examination and certificate, as required by the law of this State, under an act to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery. Dr. Carradice presented a diploma from Vermont Medical College, but the members of the board did not feel satisfied that it was such as a college of medicine of good standing would issue, and, too, we had no record of the existence of such college, hence my inquiries. I wrote to Judge Barrett and Dr. Geo. Dutton and have received replies from each. Dr. Dutton is, as you say, quite smart, and says that some of his assertions are *quite strong*, and from looking over a copy of his paper, the Cynosure, I should say that he was correct in saying so, for I found them altogether too strong for my digestion or belief. This State has been so overrun during the winter months for several years, with *quacks* from all parts of the country that I fear we will have our hands full in putting a stop to their many schemes. I am much obliged for the copies of Reports of your State Board of Health, and will take great pleasure in reading them. I will send you copies of report of our board when it is issued. This has been an exceptionally

healthy year in this State, and it has been an agreeable surprise to us all that it has been so, for we fully expected that several points would develop yellow fever in consequence of the mild winter following the epidemic of 1888, but with the exception of Key West, not a case was reported.

Again thanking you, Doctor, for your kind attention, I am

Yours very truly,

J. L. HORSEY.

RUTLAND, VT., Oct. 31st, 1889.

Mr. E. C. Garee:

DEAR SIR—Your letter of inquiry of the 17th inst. duly received. The law in this State gives power to license to practice medicine to censors (three in number) who are elected by "Medical societies organized under a charter from the General Assembly." These censors give a license to anyone who furnishes "evidence by diploma from a medical college or university which *satisfies* said censors that the person has been, after due examination, deemed qualified to practice." The censors are usually satisfied with a diploma if it is from a recognized reputable college. The "School of Medicine" of the Maryland University and the "College of Physicians of Baltimore" are recognized. What the "Baltimore University School of Medicine" is I do not know. If the censors have any doubt as to the diploma or the qualification they are obliged to inquire before issuing a license.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN,

Secretary.

No. 830 COLUMBIA AVE.,
BALTIMORE, MD., Nov. 10th, 1889. }

Dr. C. L. Allen, Secretary Board of Health, Vermont.

DEAR SIR—Yours of October 31st to hand, in which you say you have no knowledge of the standing of the "Baltimore University School of Medicine;" and in regard to the standing of the school. I enclose a letter from Prof. Flint, Dean of Bellevue College, New York. I have not fully decided whether I shall locate in New York or Vermont, and as the New York law requires diplomas from schools outside the State to be approved by a New York school, and consequently wrote to Prof. Flint, whose answer I enclose. Of course, I do not mean to say that this should be a guide for your board, but do it merely to show the rating of the school by the Bellevue College.

I desire to know definitely what will be required of me, so if I conclude to locate in Vermont and have to pass an examination, I can prepare for it. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain,

Very truly yours,

E. C. GAREE.

RUTLAND, VT., Nov. 16, 1889.

Mr. E. C. Garee :

DEAR SIR—If Prof. Flint did not confound the Baltimore University School of Medicine with the Maryland University School of Medicine, the diplomas of the Baltimore University School of Medicine will undoubtedly be good in this State. The censors must be "satisfied" with the diploma before they can grant a license. They are usually easily satisfied.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN.

I return Dr. Flint's letter, thinking you may want to keep it.

BELLEVUE HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE, }
NEW YORK, Nov. 5, 1889. }

Mr. E. C. Garee :

DEAR SIR—The diploma of the Baltimore University School of Medicine is recognized by the Bellevue Hospital Medical College.

Yours respectfully,

AUSTIN FLINT,

Secretary.

NORTHFIELD, VT., June 12, 1890.

A. H. Chesmore, M. D., Huntington, Vt.:

DEAR DOCTOR—The railroad company are carrying a great many hogs through our town; several trains a day. They stop them all here and wash down the hogs, thus washing the filth out of the cars on to the ground, causing a terrible stench. The yard is nearly in the center of our village. Is there any means to stop it?

Very truly,

J. H. WINCH,

Health Officer.

NORTHFIELD, VT, June 14, 1890.

DEAR DOCTOR—Inclosed you will find a petition from the people of our village in regard to the hog trains of which I wrote you. I was asked to send it to you.

Very truly,

J. H. WINCH.

A PETITION FOR ABATEMENT OF A COMMON NUISANCE.

STATE OF VERMONT, } To the Health Officer
 WASHINGTON COUNTY, } and
 TOWN OF NORTHFIELD. } To the Trustees of Northfield Village.

We, the undersigned, citizens of Northfield, do hereby respectfully call your immediate attention to the fact that the railroad company does stop its "hog trains" within the limits of this village and throws water to cool the *hogs* or to wash the cars in which *hogs* are transported, thereby leaving *filth*, which creates not only an intolerably unbearable *stench*, but will inevitably breed pestilence and is a serious menace to the health of the community.

Therefore, we demand that this practice be discontinued. We hereby pray you to give thorough attention to the abatement of this nuisance.

This petition was signed by nearly 100 persons.

RUTLAND, June 18, 1890.

To the Selectmen of Northfield, Vermont:

GENTLEMEN—A petition has been forwarded to us, signed by nearly a hundred residents of Northfield, addressed to the health officer and trustees of Northfield village, in regard to cleansing hog trains in that village. In our opinion such continuous deposit of filth as is caused thereby is a decided nuisance, and must eventually be detrimental to public health. You, and you alone, (unless the village charter vests such power in the trustees) have power to remedy this. See Revised Laws, Sec. 3924. Our Board has no absolute power in the matter. If disease should arise from such cause you (or the trustees) would be responsible therefor.

We have written to the trustees also.

Very respectfully.

C. L. ALLEN, Secretary.

JUNE 18, 1890.

To the Trustees of Northfield Village:

GENTLEMEN—The petition forwarded to us by the health officer of your village has been received. Undoubtedly the acts complained of constitute a nuisance and should be stopped. If your charter gives you power to stop them you will be alone responsible, as we have no power to act. If it does not give such power the duty would devolve upon the selectmen, under Revised Laws, Sec. 3924, and you should see to it that they act. We have written them in regard to the matter.

Very respectfully,

A. H. CHESMORE, President.

C. L. ALLEN, Secretary.

NORTHFIELD, VT., Aug. 8, 1890.

Dr. A. H. Chesmore :

DEAR SIR—The letters which I asked for (that you wrote to our selectmen and also our trustees) came duly to hand. I thank you for the same. I would like to ask you one thing more. Have you any objections to our publishing them in our local paper? There seems to be an attempt by our trustees and selectmen to smother or ignore the whole thing, and if we could publish these letters the whole matter would be understood by the people.

Very truly yours,

A. F. SPAULDING.

A. F. Spaulding, Esq., Northfield.

SIR—Your letter to Dr. Chesmore referred to me regarding the correspondence of the Board of Health with selectmen and trustees of Northfield is at hand.

Certainly there can be no objection to the publication of the letters if you choose to do so.

Very respectfully,

J. H. HAMILTON, Secretary.

OFFICE OF H. S. ORME, M. D., PRES. STATE BOARD HEALTH, }
LOS ANGELES, CAL., Aug. 17, 1889. }

DEAR DOCTOR—I am desirous of obtaining as accurate an account of all the cases of leprosy in America, as possible. You would greatly favor me if you will let me know if there are any well authenticated cases in your State.

Yours very truly,

H. S. ORME,

Per H. B. E.

RUTLAND, Oct. 10, 1889.

H. S. Orme, M. D., President State Board of Health, Los Angeles, Cal.:

DEAR DOCTOR—Your letter containing "questions in regard to leprosy" duly received.

I have been in practice over forty years. For more than thirty years I have been conversant with the causes of death in this State. I made out entirely the past four Registration Reports, containing the causes of death for the years 1857, '58, '59 and '60, and have taken an interest in the reports since.

I think there has never been a well authenticated case of leprosy in this State. Although three cases of death from this cause have

been reported during the thirty-one years the reports have been published, one in 1857, one in 1860 and one in 1868. I compiled the reports for 1859 and 1860, and did not feel at liberty to change the name, although I knew one of the cases to be ichthyosis, and I suppose the others were.

C. L. ALLEN, Secretary.

MORRISVILLE, VT., Jan. 29, 1890.

DEAR DOCTOR—I have a case on hand as health officer of this town that I should like a little advice on.

One of our hotel men last fall was in the habit of turning his wash water and slops into the street, and upon my talking with him he agreed to attend to it so as to have no more trouble. For a while he took care of it, but now for the past few weeks has been taking them across the road and turning them on to a vacant lot he owns, which is upon one of our principal streets; the lot being on a sidehill, the slops run down into the road and we have a slop hole right under the face of three different families. I do not suppose that there is any danger so long as our cold weather lasts, but it does not make a very nice looking place, and in the spring when warm weather comes cannot help being very offensive as well as dangerous.

Now this is new business to me and I do not want to make any mistakes and I should like your advice as to how I shall proceed to put a stop to it. I had a talk with the gentleman yesterday, as the neighbors complained to me about it, and he informed me he should empty his slops there and no law of the State of Vermont could stop him. Now what can I do, if anything, to put a stop to it?

Very truly yours,

C. C. RUBLEE.

C. C. Rublee, M. D.:

DEAR DOCTOR—Your letter of the 29th January duly received. By Sec. 3924, Revised Laws, "The selectmen *shall* (not may) make such regulations respecting nuisances, *sources of filth*, and causes of sickness within their respective towns as they judge necessary for the public health, and shall destroy, remove or prevent such as may be injurious to the public health, and a person violating such regulations shall forfeit not more than \$100."

If you can get the selectmen to adopt the accompanying regulations as *the* regulations which they are bound to make, they will have the matter in their hands, and the hotel man will find that there is a law of the State of Vermont that can stop him. I can furnish any number of copies of these regulations which your selectmen may wish.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN,

Secretary.

MORRISVILLE, VT., Feb. 26, 1890.

DEAR DOCTOR—If the State Board of Health have any power to take this case I wrote you about some time ago in hand, I wish they would, for the selectmen do not dare to do anything. They have adopted the regulations and notified the man to stop throwing his slops out, but it does no good and they say that as it is cold weather they do no harm and the result is we have a bad looking place on one of our main streets, and when warm weather comes this spring you can see what the result will be. If such things cannot be stopped what do the health laws amount to?

Very truly yours,

C. C. RUBLEE.

RUTLAND, March 1, 1890.

C. C. Rublee, M. D.:

DEAR DOCTOR—The State Board of Health has absolutely *no* power in any case, except in a round-about way, and then only in the actual presence of contagious and epidemic diseases.

If the present selectmen dare not do their duty, perhaps the new board to be elected next Tuesday will have more pluck. When you, as health officer, declare it to be dangerous to public health, what better authority or backing up can the selectmen ask or expect?

If you have preserved the first number of the Sanitary Visitor you will see by Sec. 10 that the Board designed to have some power.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN,
Secretary.

WATERBURY, VT., April 14, 1890.

C. L. Allen, M. D.

DEAR SIR—Please send me 300 or 400 copies of the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Health, and oblige,

Yours,

W. F. MINARD.

EAST DORSET, VT., May 1st, 1890.

Dr. Allen, Rutland, Vt.

According to the present laws of Vermont could a man be made to remove a horse barn or the horses from his barn, by reason of the barn being built over a stream which is used for drinking water by a family 60 rods below, after the water has passed through a water-wheel at a grist mill, and where an analysis shows no more im-

purities or organic matter where used than before passing under the barn? (Analysis by potass. solution only as proof of this.) Would this man be allowed to throw the droppings of his horses under the barn, provided they were prevented from entering the stream by a tight board partition six feet from the water's edge, and no horses are ever placed over the brook or within 15 feet of over the brook?

Can a man pasture hogs in a pasture through which this stream passes; size of pasture not less than four acres?

This whole matter has just been laid before me, and appears like a personal spite on part of those complaining, as it has been the same for 20 years past and I think no trouble has arisen before over the matter. It would appear to me if any such changes as they demand were made it would necessitate a complete revolution and change in nearly every man's property in town. One of the men who signs this petition or complaint has a pig pen and pig in it within 10 feet of the banks of this same brook not 20 rods below and the other has several constructions worse by far than some they complain of. Would you advise carrying out the law to the letter in every instance when complaint is made, or being satisfied when things are put into a reasonably good condition, so as to be better than the average throughout the town?

Hoping I have not put you to too much trouble by asking these numerous questions, and wishing if possible to properly carry out the duties which have been imposed upon me, I am,

Yours very respectfully,

C. W. BARTLETT, M. D.,

Health Officer, Dorset, Vt.

P. S.—If convenient please send me a few copies of your circular No. 5, and oblige,

C. W. B.

BARRE, VT., Sept. 4, 1889.

Dr. C. L. Allen, Secretary State Board of Health:

DEAR SIR—Cannot some member of the State Board make this village a visit in the near future? There are many things connected with the hygienic condition of the place about which we would like your advice and assistance.

An early reply will greatly oblige

Yours respectfully,

H. L. GALE,

Health Officer, Barre, Vt.

HUNTINGTON, Sept. 9, 1889.

C. L. Allen, M. D., Secretary:

DEAR DOCTOR—Your note of Sept. 6 received containing letter from Dr. Gale. There is no special reason why I would not like to go to Barre, unless it be this, that I think you could do more

good than I can. And further, I would like you to see what a thriving town it is. And if you go, give Montpelier's trustees a little good advice in passing. I have been up the Lamoille valley since I saw you—to Morrisville, Hyde Park, Johnson, Cambridge and Underhill, and had health officers appointed in each town, also to Waterbury by request.

Very respectfully,

A. H. CHESMORE,

President.

HUNTINGTON, Sept. 27, 1889.

C. L. Allen, M. D., Secretary.

DEAR DOCTOR—I have been to Barre, met Dr. Gale, and was driven by him all over the village; inspected the slaughter house, which I found in a very filthy condition, and I advised that it be closed for it is unfit for use. There is a good deal of typhoid fever in town, but the trustees are doing a great work in putting in sewer pipe in nearly every street in the village, and connecting the dwellings with the same. They are expending \$75,000, and they tell me that they shall complete the work in four weeks. The main sewer empties into the river about one-half mile below the village. They have a first rate system of water works; take the water from a large brook about three miles above the village. The physicians as well as trustees are thoroughly in earnest in the matter of sanitary reform. The chief cause of so much typhoid, I apprehend, is the drinking of well water which the inhabitants, many of them, insist on doing. It tastes and looks all right, they say, and they don't like the idea of buying it.

I called on Mr. Phinney and obtained Mr. Hopkins' report, which I send to you. I am quite favorably impressed with it. Mr. Phinney wants us to meet him again in Montpelier, sure. What do you think about next week? Our regular meeting comes on the 11th of October, but I have been thinking about going to Gettysburgh week after next; and if I do, I can't be home on the 11th of October. Please let me hear from you soon.

Yours truly,

A. H. CHESMORE, President.

BARRE, VT., Oct. 8, 1890.

Dr. A. H. Chesmore, Huntington, Vt.:

DEAR SIR—At a meeting of the board of bailiffs the 7th inst., I was instructed to ask you to be present at our village meeting on the evening of the 12th inst. The purpose of this meeting is to see if the village will vote to adopt the sanitary and Board of Health and plumbing regulations which are necessary to have in connec-

tion with our new sewer system. We should like to have some one here who could explain what is really necessary, as there is a certain element here who are opposing us on our every move.

If you could not come could you send one of the State Board? Dr. Gale, the health officer, thinks it very necessary for some one to be here. Please answer.

Yours truly,

F. B. MUDGETT,
Clerk of Bailiffs of Barre.

STATE OF VERMONT, COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, }
MONTPELIER, June 14, 1890. }

Dr. C. L. Allen :

DEAR SIR—A. B. Bisbee, M. D., has been appointed by the selectmen and bailiffs of Montpelier, health officer of said town and village.

Yours truly,

M. E. SMILIE,
Clerk of Bailiffs.

MONTPELIER, June 14, 1890.

C. L. Allen, M. D. :

DEAR SIR—I am directed to apply to you for circulars No. 4 and 5. I wish for them for general distribution in this community and would like about 600 copies each. Send by express.

Yours, &c.,

M. E. SMILIE,
Bailiff of Montpelier.

MONTPELIER, June 20, 1890.

C. L. Allen, M. D. :

DEAR SIR—Our village lies along the river and on the other side in the town of Berlin is our "Brooklyn" but out of our jurisdiction. I have procured the selectmen to appoint our health officer to be health officer of the town of Berlin also, and they desired me to notify the State Board. They also wished me to request you to send to me for them 500 copies each of circulars No. 4 and 5. You may think we are extravagant with the circulars, but we want them placed in the hands of every citizen and then we intend to enforce them. Please send circulars to me by express.

Yours, &c.,

M. E. SMILIE.

BRADFORD, VT., Nov. 12, 1889.

C. L. Allen, M. D.:

DEAR DOCTOR—Have been appointed health officer for the town of Bradford, by the selectmen, on the recommendation of Dr. Hamilton, member of State Board of Health. Please furnish me with circulars as is your custom in such appointments.

Very respectfully,

J. H. JONES.

FAIR HAVEN, VT., Nov. 9, 1889.

Dr. C. L. Allen, Secretary State Board of Health:

DEAR SIR—Thirty or more deaths have occurred in this village from diphtheria. A large number of cases are now sick and new cases occurring every day. It is fast on the increase and no means taken to stop it. Three deaths in one family and no action taken by the selectmen. The selectmen have been appealed to, to call for State Board of Health. They move slowly. A large number of citizens wish your board to come here at once and make a thorough investigation and devise means to stop it. Let me see you or hear from you at once.

Yours truly,

E. H. PHELPS.

SOUTH NORTHFIELD, VT., Jan. 2, 1890.

Mr. C. L. Allen:

DEAR SIR—Will you please send me a complete list of the Regulations of the State Board of Health: When Dr. Chesmore was here he was short and only left a few circulars. I should like the whole list. Respectfully yours,

W. W. HOLDEN,

Selectman.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., April 1, 1890.

DEAR SIR—Can you give me any information or procure any announcement of the Union Medical Institute, Newbury, Vermont, W. S. Cowan, M. D., secretary, or, of the Vermont Medical College, Rutland, George Dutton, M. D., dean? What is the status

of the litigation with regard to the latter? Would like all the information you can give me, as my Report on Medical Education and Medical Colleges is now going through the press.

Very truly yours,

JOHN H. RANCH,

Secretary.

To Dr. C. L. Allen, Secretary State Board of Health, Rutland, Vermont.

RUTLAND, VT., April 15, 1890.

J. H. Ranch, M. D., Secretary State Board of Health, Springfield, Ill.:

DEAR DOCTOR—Your letter of inquiry, No. 34,728, in regard to the Union Medical Institute, Newbury, and the Vermont Medical College in this place, has been received. I have delayed answering in hopes of being able obtain some reliable information in regard to the former. But I have been able to find out nothing definite as yet, and will delay no longer to answer in regard to the latter.

The Vermont Medical College has had a *quasi*-legal standing on account of a written opinion given by an ex-judge of the Supreme Court, who certifies that being organized under the general statute authorizing the formation of societies and associations for literary, scientific, religious or charitable purposes, it had a right to grant certificates or diplomas of whatever kind it chose. But this same ex-judge said to us that the diplomas would confer no right to practice medicine in this State; the holder being liable to a fine of \$50 for the first recipe made and \$200 for any subsequent recipe.

I send you a copy of the Rutland Herald containing the decision of the Supreme Court in full bench, in the case of the sister of the dean, who has been and is really the whole college. This Dr. Dutton is a very smart fellow, but visionary, having adopted the christian science practice, and lives in Boston, and collects his students, mostly women, in or near Boston, comes here, gives one or more lectures, goes through the farce of giving the diplomas of M. D., and returns to Boston. Sometimes his students are in town only one or two days.

I will try to learn something about the Newbury Institute. And I learn that there is something of the same sort in Bennington in this State. If I can learn anything reliable about either I will write you.

C. L. ALLEN,

Secretary.

WEST RANDOLPH, Vt., July 18, 1890.

C. L. Allen, M. D.:

DEAR DOCTOR—I have to report one case of diphtheria in this village in a little girl six or seven years of age. She came from Boston one week ago, and has been sick two days, and is quite a bad case. A brother, older, had diphtheria early in April and recovered, and is here, also a sister older. There are ten children in the family in which they are visiting. The four children have been taken away, the house well fumigated and all the means used to restrict it and prevent its further spreading. A little boy in East Randolph died of diphtheria ten days ago. No other cases before or since, as yet, in that village. I saw another mild case two miles out, which has recovered. These cases are in no way traceable one to the other. Hope not to have to report anything further of the kind.

Yours truly,

A. C. BAILEY,
West Randolph, Vt.

TOPSHAM, Vt., June 25, 1890.

C. L. Allen, Rutland, Vt.:

SIR.—Will you please send me 25 copies Regulations of the Board of Health for general distribution.

Very respectfully,

JOEL T. CLARK, P. M.,
Topsham, Orange Co., Vt.

RUTLAND, May 6, 1890.

A. H. Chesmore, M. D., President:

DEAR DOCTOR—The accompanying letter received this morning. I do not see how it is possible for me to go to Fairlee. I wish you would go and do what you think best. I have been sick for a week or two past or the Visitor would have been printed.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN,
Secretary.

FAIRLEE, May 3, 1890.

Charles L. Allen :

SIR—About the first of December a lady came to our town from Brattleboro sick with diphtheria, and died in a few days. Since then three others have died with it, the last one last Monday. We have kept them quarantined in each house where it has broken out, but don't seem to stop it, and think that you or some of the Board of Health had better come and see what more can be done. There is a lady just coming down with it in the same house where the boy died Wednesday. I think Dr. Bowen has written you in regard to the same matter. Please give it your early attention. If you come please drop us a line when you will be here so we can meet you at depot. The people seem quite excited about it.

Hastily yours,

L. O. HEATH,

First Selectman.

Postoffice address, Bradford, Vt.

If you come get off the cars at Fairlee and not South Fairlee.

SHELDON, VT., Jan. 2, 1890.

Charles L. Allen, M. D. :

DEAR DOCTOR—One death from diphtheria in town yesterday and several (three I think) cases sick with the same. Please send supply of circulars and necessary information in regard to the matter. Also treatment which is new and worthy of note.

Respectfully,

E. M. BROWN,

Health Officer.

SHELDON, VT., Jan. 6, 1890.

Mr. Allen, M. D. :

DEAR SIR—Please send me 75 copies of circulars No. 4 and 5 for general distribution and oblige.

P. B. B. NORTHROP,

Selectman.

ROCHESTER, Feb. 15, 1890.

C. L. Allen, Secretary of the Board of Health:

DEAR SIR—The board of selectmen of this town were called upon the past summer by the health officer of said town to construct a slop drain for a tenement house infested with typhoid fever, the proprietor living out of town.

What course must be pursued to recover of the proprietor the cost or expense thus incurred?

Respectfully,

E. EMERSON,

Selectman.

RUTLAND, Feb. 21, 1890.

E. Emerson, Esq., Selectman:

DEAR SIR—Your letter of inquiry duly received. Send the bill of expense of putting down the drain to the owner of the property.

If the health officer said it was necessary to put in the drain on account of the risk to public health, and if the owner or his agent refused to put it in, or were so far distant that delay would be dangerous, there could be no other way but for the selectmen to act at once, and of course the property must be liable for the expense.

The law expressly says, Sec. 3924, Revised Laws, "the selectmen shall destroy, remove or prevent such as may be injurious to the public health."

The State Board of Health has no authority. It is simply an advisory board.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN,

Secretary.

DALLAS, TEXAS, March 29th, 1890.

Postmaster, Rutland, Vt.:

DEAR SIR—Can you give me the standing of the Medical College of Vermont, located in your city. Is there such a college there in good standing? Do you know Dr. Moses Ela Cheney? Drs. Dutton and Carpenter?

Any information you can give me as to the reliability of the college will be highly appreciated.

Yours truly,

J. R. BRIGGS,

912 Elm St.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH, SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
RUTLAND, April, 1890. }

J. R. Briggs, M. D. :

DEAR DOCTOR—The Postmaster of this place has referred your letter of March 29th to me for answer.

The Vermont Medical College had a *quasi*-legal standing as certified to by an ex-judge of the Supreme Court upon payment of a fee of \$25. But the Supreme Court in full bench has decided that the diplomas are good for nothing, as you will see by a newspaper which I mail to your address.

Dr. Dutton is a very smart and well educated fellow, but visionary. He is the Vermont Medical College, comprising the whole faculty. He lives in Boston, picks up his students, mostly women, in and around Boston, comes here, gives one or more lectures, goes through the farce of giving his students diplomas, and returns to Boston. Sometimes the students are not in town more than one day.

Moses Ela Cheney and Cyril Carpenter are two old men whom he has persuaded to become corporators of his society, or "college" as he calls it. Neither one ever pretended to know anything about medicine.

Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN, Secretary.

DALLAS, TEXAS, April 7th, 1890.

Charles L. Allen, M. D., Secretary State Board of Health, Vt. :

DEAR DOCTOR—Your highly esteemed favor of the 5th instant in response to mine of recent date to the Postmaster of your city, is received. Replying, please accept my thanks for the interest you have taken in the matter. One of Dutton's M. Ds. is here in Dallas; he is N. G.

I wrote Dutton at the same time I did the Postmaster of your city, and he says: "Oh, yes, he is a graduate," that is our Dallas man. I am after one P. Ripley Bradbury, who is attempting to sell diplomas in Texas. Will write you more later if any developments occur.

Yours fraternally,

J. R. BRIGGS, M. D.,

912 Elm St.

P. S.—Will mail you copy of my Journal as soon as out, in a few days. It refers to Bradbury and his schemes. B.

Do not take any steps against Bradbury, the matter is already in the hands of U. S. Postal Inspector. B.

ORFORD, May 1, 1890.

C. L. Allen, M. D., Rutland, Vt. :

DEAR SIR—I have had three cases of diphtheria in one house, two fatal, one died to-day—boy 16 years old. The house is occupied and partly owned by an old lady past 80 years old—poor and not able to make repairs.

The ell part of the house, used as kitchen, has a water barrel and sink; the floor is rotted and sunken under the sink; the waste from the sink has escaped under the sink and run under the floor and about the water barrel for a year past, and when it goes where it ought to, it runs into a sink hole within ten feet of the house which has not been cleaned out for years. In the winter it freezes and runs all over an open shed at back of the house.

Family now consists of the old lady, Mrs. M., a young man, Frank Hall, wife and baby (baby has had the disease—about April 10), who care for Mrs. M. for the years to come and Mrs. Hall's mother, who cared for Mrs. M. the year past. The fatal cases were Mrs. Hall's brother and sister, aged 16 and 6 years.

They both had it in its worst form.

There have been three other cases in a house one-fourth of a mile distant, on Feb. 25, and Mr. Hall did chores at the barns but did not enter the house. The first case, Rosa, was taken sick March 31; Mr. Hall's baby, April 3; the last case, April 26. I have repeatedly urged the selectmen to clean up the premises, but I cannot as yet get them to even enter the door. If there is any law in Vermont that compels the cleaning up of such places, I should like to see it enforced.

Most truly,
DR. WALTER R. BARNES,
Orford, N. H.

HARTFORD, VT., Jan. 31, 1890.

Dr. C. L. Allen, Rutland, Vt. :

DEAR DOCTOR—Herbert B. Warren has scarlatina of several days standing. Saw him yesterday. The law will be observed. Of the family of W. B. Warren.

Truly,
J. A. DAY.

ALBURGH SPRINGS, VT., Jan. 9, 1890.

C. L. Allen, M. D., Rutland, Vt. :

DEAR DOCTOR—I have lately been appointed health officer for Alburgh and write you to ascertain a few things that are not clear to my mind. The regulations require that houses be placarded for measles and the family quarantined the same as in diphtheria. We

are having, or, rather have had, an epidemic of measles. The people as usual are very careless about exposure. There have been three deaths. Am I obliged to shut them up and can it be enforced? Has the State a right to ask such service of any man without remuneration? To close and disinfect houses by a health officer requires sometimes miles of travel and any amount of curses from ignorant people. Perhaps I am not sufficiently posted, although I have studied the regulations.

Respectfully yours,

FRED L. LADUE, M. D.

RUTLAND, Jan. 12, 1890.

DEAR DOCTOR—If the village of Alburgh Springs is incorporated it may have provision for a health officer. If so the charter undoubtedly defines his duties and makes provision for paying him. According to State laws no such officer is recognized, and if one is appointed by the selectmen they can only recommend that the town should pay him a reasonable sum. The regulations in circular No. 5 are merely advisory. But if the selectmen (or trustees of a village) adopt them formally in full board as the regulations which by Sec. 3924, Revised Laws, they are obliged to make, they can be enforced.

If you have the first number of the Sanitary Visitor you will see that the State Board of Health designed to make them "legal enactments," and meant to have health officers and to pay them.

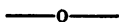
Very respectfully,

C. L. ALLEN,

Secretary.

In compliance with the Toronto resolution (conference of Boards of Health, Oct. 6th, 1886), the following reports in relation to small pox, have been received by the secretary of the State Board of Health of Vermont: Provincial Board of Health, 2 cases, July 5 and 14, 1890, J. A. Beaudry, health officer. Connecticut State Board of Health, Dr. C. A. Lindsley, secretary, 2 cases Dec. 28, 1889; Jan. 18, 1890, 2 cases; Jan. 25, 1890, 4 cases, and Feb. 14, 1890, 7 cases. Illinois State Board of Health, John H. Ranch, secretary; 2 cases Feb. 18, 1890. Michigan State Board of Health, Dr. Henry B. Baker; 1 case Dec. 2, 1889; 2 cases Dec. 5, 1889; Feb. 12, 1890, 1 case; and 1 case, Feb. 26, 1890.

Reports of Health Officers.



Burlington—Sanitary condition generally good ; water supply good, taken from Lake Champlain ; prevailing diseases, measles to a slight extent, and several cases of cholera infantum ; no epidemic of any kind. Under the zymotic class or diseases which are in a measure preventable, 29 deaths for 11 months, from Sept. 1, 1889, to July 31, 1890 ; cholera infantum 16 cases, diphtheria 2, membranous croup 1, typhoid fever 4, measles 3, scarlet fever 2, continued fever 1. J. C. Rutherford, M. D.

Fairfield—Sanitary condition fair ; water supply from springs and wells. Prevailing diseases, stomach and bowel troubles. W. G. E. Flanders, M. D.

Troy—Sanitary condition, drainage is defective ; water supply, wells, and to some extent, running spring and river water. Have had an epidemic of pertussis, mild in character. No deaths. Two cases of measles. No other infectious or contagious disease excepting varicella. F. W. Comings, M. D.

Franklin—Sanitary condition, good ; water supply, lovely spring water, running. Prevailing disease, a limited amount of summer complaint. J. B. Hall, M. D.

Moretown—Sanitary condition, good ; water supply, spring as a general thing, and very good. There is really no prevailing disease, as I understand the question. We have some typhoid fever, pneumonia and tubercular diseases, perhaps typhoid and pneumonia most prevailing. James Haylett, M. D.

Northfield—Sanitary condition, fair ; water supply, from springs ; good. Prevailing disease, none. J. H. Winch, M. D.

Jericho—Sanitary condition, good ; water supply, good ; wells and springs. Prevailing diseases, measles and whooping cough. F. H. Gilley, M. D.

Middlebury—Sanitary condition, fair ; water supply, wells. No prevailing disease at present, (usually typhoid fever from September to January). M. D. Smith, M. D.

Johnson—Sanitary condition, good ; water supply, springs for nine-tenths of the families in town, wells and cisterns, or brooks, for the balance. Prevailing disease, measles just now ; usually pneumonia and rheumatism for severe, with catarrhal troubles for lighter forms. Joel Allen, M. D.

Greensboro—Sanitary condition, excellent; water supply, mostly spring and very pure. Prevailing diseases are of a catarrhal nature; no epidemic of typhoid fever in town for eight years. F. C. Kinney, M. D.

Concord—Sanitary condition, good, healthy; water supply, mostly springs. No epidemic, nothing of importance. R. T. Johnson, M. D.

Coventry—Sanitary condition, bad around river; water supply, mostly from springs through lead pipe. Prevailing disease, none, only general diseases arising in country practice. F. D. Bulger, M. D.

Lunenburg—Sanitary condition, good; mostly high land; water supply, springs of excellent water. Prevailing disease, catarrhal. Hiram A. Cutting, M. D.

Brighton—Sanitary condition, good; water, supply excellent. Prevailing disease, none. E. F. Norcross, M. D.

Hardwick—Sanitary condition, not the best, but very fair; water supply is largely from a brook conveyed in iron pipe, the remainder from springs, very good supply. Prevailing disease, none. S. E. Darling, M. D.

Waitsfield—Sanitary condition, good; water supply, good natural springs. Prevailing disease, none at present writing. H. T. J. Howe, M. D.

Danville—Sanitary condition, good; water supply from wells and springs, water hard, but good. Prevailing disease, influenza, during the winter and spring. Hardly any typhoid fever. J. S. Durant, M. D.

Highgate—Sanitary condition, good; water supply, good; entirely by wells. There has been no prevailing disease the past year; pneumonia more frequent than any other. H. Baxter, M. D.

Troy—Sanitary condition, fair; water supply, mostly from pure springs, some wells and ponds. Prevailing disease, catarrhal, of the air passages. F. S. Cray, M. D.

Derby—Sanitary condition, good, except at west village; water supply, wells and springs mostly. Prevailing disease, bilious character mostly; no typhoid, except at west village. Very little consumption. E. W. Clark, M. D.

Georgia—Sanitary condition, no precautions taken to prevent disease by town; water supply, from wells almost entirely. Prevailing disease, typhoid fever and lung troubles. O. G. Stickney, M. D.

Bristol—Sanitary condition, good; water supply, from mountain springs and cisterns. Prevailing disease, typhoid fever. H. A. Bogue, M. D.

Warren—Sanitary condition, good; water supply, good running water from springs. Prevailing disease, none. Olin D. Greene, M. D.

Woodstock—Sanitary condition, very good indeed for a town without a sewerage system, water supply, Woodstock Aqueduct Co. Reservoir supplied from brook. No dwellings above reservoir. A few families still use wells, some of which I have condemned the past year. There are no prevailing diseases at present except what are generally found. Whooping cough was prevalent in the early spring, but none at present. The summer has been particularly healthy. Fred T. Kidder, M. D.

South Hero—Sanitary condition, good; water supply, springs, Lake Champlain. Prevailing disease, no special. C. W. Petty, M. D.

Fairlee—Sanitary condition averages very good; water supply, by private aqueducts of spring water. Prevailing disease, none at this time. We have usually but little sickness. A. W. Paine, M. D.

Glover—Sanitary condition, good; water supply, abundant, from springs. Prevailing disease, indolence. P. L. Templeton, M. D.

Cambridge—Sanitary condition, generally good; water supply, from springs and driven wells. Prevailing disease, diarrhoea and dysentery. J. B. Morgan, M. D.

Pownal—Sanitary condition, good; water supply, good. Prevailing disease, none. John S. Niles, M. D.

Fairfax—Sanitary condition, fully averaging with surrounding towns; water supply, good. Village supplied by wells and cisterns mainly—a few have springs. The town well watered with a large percentage of running water from springs. Prevailing disease, perhaps pneumonia and diarrhoea and dysentery in their seasons, take the lead. C. F. Hawley, M. D.

Hyde Park—Sanitary condition, fairly good; water supply, spring water brought in pipes to cisterns. Prevailing disease, none. David Randall, M. D.

Montgomery—Sanitary condition, comparatively good; water supply, wells and springs. Prevailing disease the past year, malarial fever, pneumonia, mumps. B. W. Davis, M. D.

ALBURGH SPRINGS, July 22, 1890.

J. H. Hamilton, M. D., Secretary State Board of Health, Richford, Vt.:

DEAR DOCTOR—The health of the town of Alburgh as regards infectious and contagious diseases has been exceptionally good the past year. We had an epidemic of measles last winter, which came from North Hero. There were no deaths from it here. I find the people willing to take all precautions recommended. We have had no diphtheria, not a single case to my knowledge. One case of typhoid occurred at the Springs, but no other cases resulted.

Respectfully yours,

FRED. L. LADUE, Health Officer.

Dr. J. H. Hamilton:

DEAR DOCTOR—In reply to yours of July 19th I would say that the general health of the people of this town has been excellent since the grippe passed by. Thus far there has not been a case of typhoid fever in town since Jan. 1, 1890.

In February, five members of one family had diphtheria; one, a girl aged 4 years, died with diphtheritic croup; the rest all made good recovery. There was hardly a question but this outbreak was caused by a bad sink drain, as a very bad odor came from it, and upon investigation the drain was in a filthy condition.

In July a case of diphtheria occurred in a man aged about 40. This man is a carpenter and worked at a place where the well sets near the corner of the barnyard, where a pool of filthy water stands within 50 feet. Upon inquiry he stated that the water tasted very bad. Now in my opinion this case was clearly caused by drinking the infected well water, as his wife and children have thus far remained well. The patient was kept in an upper room isolated entirely from the family.

J. C. CAMPBELL, M. D.

Albany, Vt.

WEST BERKSHIRE, VT., July, 1890.

To the Secretary of the State Board of Health:

From the 1st of April to the present time the state of health of the community has been very excellent, entirely free from anything of an epidemic or contagious character. A few cases of bowel difficulty with children, due to dietetic errors, when corrected, ceased. We had in the winter months, as was common over the whole country, the epidemic of influenza, or la grippe. With that difficulty we only shared the fate of the whole country. It indirectly caused great mortality.

Respectfully,

G. S. GOODRICH.

ST. ALBANS, VT., Sept. 7, 1889.

To Dr. C. L. Allen, Secretary of the State Board of Health:

DEAR SIR—I herewith submit my report as health officer for the town of St. Albans, Franklin County, Vt.

Paul Murray, a Frenchman, living about a mile north of the village, had three children, aged about 6, 3 and 1 years respectively. In the latter part of May they were taken with diphtheria and died May 28, June 4 and 5 respectively. Attendant, T. R. Waugh, homœopathist.

June 21, Mrs. Timothy Sexton's daughter, aged 5, was attacked with laryngeal diphtheria and died on the 26th inst. Attended by myself.

June 30, Lamont's son was taken with diphtheria and recovered. Attendant, H. D. Belden.

July 24, John Long's daughter, aged 5 years, laryngial diphtheria ; recovered. Attendant, myself.

Yours, &c.,

GEORGE DUNSMORE.

WINDSOR, VT, Aug. 4, 1890.

J. H. Hamilton, M. D. :

DEAR SIR—Yours at hand. The health of the town is good ; no prevailing disease except an epidemic of whooping cough. The sanitary condition is being attended to, and is good. Water supply from a reservoir high up from the town, the water running from a mountain brook.

Very truly,

J. D. BREWSTER.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT., July 22, 1890.

J. H. Hamilton, M. D. :

DEAR DOCTOR—Replying to yours of the 19th inst., will say that as far as the literature of the department of health is concerned we are not very adroit or formal. We have a board of health nominally, but virtually I am health officer, and have little or no communication with the other gentlemen of the board, who hold the places simply because the law requires "not less than three."

I devote my energies to the practical business of the department, looking more to the practical, substantial results than to the literary showing which might be made. One reason for this course is the lack of compensation allowed by the corporation for services, \$25 per year being the salary for a member of the Board of Health, and I can't afford much literature or bookkeeping for that sum. Such as I have I give in the pages inclosed herewith, which made a part of a general report of the auditors of our corporation on March 31, 1890, the end of our fiscal year. You will observe that a part of the rules established by the State Board of Health are omitted. I have tried in vain to get them all printed in our local paper, and so inserted what seemed to me the most practical of them in our general report, which gets, or is supposed and intended to be placed, within the reach of every household here. Since April 1, 1890, whooping cough, mumps and scarlet fever have prevailed very generally within the limits of my official jurisdiction, but in very mild form, only one death from the latter disease having occurred, and none from the others. As my report shows, I have succeeded in procuring quarantine, and without many omissions. La grippe made its appearance early in the spring, but not prevalent enough to attract attention.

But few deaths have occurred in the last three months, none in the east census division of the corporation, and the omission of report of deaths, in the census blanks, returned to the proper officer by the enumerator of said division, prompted the return of the report for correction. In short, my dear doctor, we are a very healthy community in spite of 10 doctors in our midst.

Yours very truly,

F. WHITMAN.

The past year has been one of exceptional freedom from malignant or contagious diseases within the corporation, and wherever they have occurred have seldom terminated fatally, as the following statistics will show. Twenty-seven applications have been made to the board for action, and have received its attention, quite a number of the cases being for action under the law requiring quarantine, in all of which the disease has been confined to the points infected. In all the other cases a ready compliance with the directions of the health officer has avoided the necessity of sterner methods to change the conditions complained of.

The following statistics require no comments and furnish matter for congratulation that the list is so short.

Forty-two deaths have occurred within the jurisdiction of the Board of Health, and are given numerically with causes, which most interests us.

5	Consumption.
3	Old Age.
3	Heart Disease.
3	Pneumonia.
1	Bronchitis.
1	Strangulated Hernia.
4	Paralysis and Nervous Disease.
4	Accident.
4	Cholera Infantum.
1	Inflammation of the Bowels.
2	Cancer.
1	Malarial Fever.
1	Croup.
1	Diabetes.
1	Childbirth.
7	Unknown.

The unknown cases were very young infants and the causes are not traceable to unsanitary conditions, nor is it necessary to call attention to the almost total absence of cases in the rest of the list, which were due to the same conditions.

Believing that instruction should be no inconsiderable part of a report, we insert herein to that intent a few of the more important rules established by the Vermont State Board of Health, with the authority for their establishment.

RULES.

“The State Board of Health establishes and promulgates the following Rules and Regulations for the better preservation of the public health, and for the protection against infectious and contagious diseases, by the authority given in section 6th of “An Act to prevent the spreading of contagious diseases,” etc., approved November 23d, 1886.

Any householder in whose dwelling there shall occur a case of scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid or typhus fever, small-pox or cholera, shall immediately notify the local board of health.

When a physician knows or suspects that any person to whom he has been called is sick of, or has died of a communicable disease dangerous to the public health, he shall immediately report the same to the selectmen or health officer, who at once shall notify the teacher or principal of every school, academy or seminary, requesting said teachers or principals to dispense with the attendance of all pupils residing in the family in which such disease exists.

It shall be the duty of the physician, and all other attendants upon persons affected with such disease, to avoid exposure to the public of any garments, or clothing about their persons, that may have been subjected to the risk of infection.

No person who has small-pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles or whooping cough, shall attend school or any place of public worship or amusement.

Books from a public or circulating library must not be allowed in any house where there is a case of small-pox, diphtheria, or scarlet fever.

Members of any household in which small-pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, or measles exist shall abstain from attending places of public amusement, worship or education, and, as far as possible, from visiting other private houses.

No parent, guardian or master in whose house or family there shall have been a communicable disease dangerous to the public health shall permit any child in said house or family to attend any public, private or Sunday school during or after the cessation of such disease, until after the house shall have been thoroughly disinfected and cleansed, and the child shall have a proper certificate from the attending physician, countersigned by a selectman or health officer.

Plain and distinct notices must be placed upon the premises or house in which any person has small-pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhus fever, measles or whooping cough.

The clothing, bed-clothing and bedding of persons who have been sick with any communicable disease dangerous to the public health, and the rooms which they have occupied during such sickness, together with their furniture, shall be thoroughly disinfected.

Swine shall be kept in such a place and manner as not to be offensive to the persons residing in the vicinity; and their pens and yards must be kept deodorized by the application of dried muck, dry earth, or some other effective absorbent or disinfectant.

Whatever is dangerous to human life or health, and whatever renders soil, air, food, water or other drink unwholesome, are declared to be nuisances, and liable to originate or spread contagious diseases.

Whatever building, erection or part or cellar thereof is overcrowded, or not provided with adequate means of ingress and egress, or is not sufficiently supported, ventilated, sewerred, drained, cleaned or lighted, is declared to be a nuisance.

The collection of refuse matter in and around the immediate vicinity of any dwelling house, or place of business, such as swill, waste of meat, fish or shells, bones, decaying vegetables, excrement, or any kind of offal that may decompose and generate disease germs, or unhealthy gases, shall be considered the worst kind of a nuisance, and must be removed or disposed of either by burning, burial or otherwise in such a manner that it may not be offensive to the neighborhood.

The preparation and keeping of all meat, fish, birds or other animal food, shall be in the manner best adapted to secure and continue their wholesomeness as food."

A strict observance of these rules will go far toward perpetuating the favorable sanitary conditions which we have enjoyed the past year, and is very earnestly commended to the citizens of this corporation by the health officers.

F. WHITMAN,	} Board of Health
D. K. BARRY,	
N. ADAMS,	
	of
	} Bellows Falls.

METEOROLOGICAL.

BY DR. HIRAM A. CUTTING.

These observations were taken at Lunenburg, Vt., latitude, $44^{\circ} 27' 48''$; longitude, $71^{\circ} 40' 47''$; height above the sea, 1210 feet.

METEOROLOGY AND DISEASE.

That all people believe there is a certain sympathy between meteorology and their diseases I do not doubt, and yet few realize to what extent meteorological conditions govern their feelings, and hence their various acts of life. Even the beasts of the field, as well as fishes, birds and insects, acknowledge its effects. Some people are so sensitive that they may well be looked upon as walking barometers, as their capability of foretelling storms by their feelings is very great.

The actual reason for this is no more understood than why the frog changes his color before a storm. As the field of speculation is thus left open, various reasons are assigned for these peculiarities. The probabilities are that no one cause can account for this peculiarity in man, and hence all theories may have a grain of truth, and doubtless the nerves are acted upon by pressure, dampness, electricity, etc.

Future investigation may reveal much. At first it seemed strange to me that a fish beneath the water could realize anything of the changes of the atmosphere, but investigation shows that their days of hunger, when almost anyone could get bites at least, were days of low barometer, and that the days that they would turn away from the most tempting morsel were days of high barometer; or in other words, their organization is such that the pressure of the atmosphere upon the surface of the water seems to increase or diminish their appetite as it is greater or less. Hence the barometer not only shows us the indications of wet or fair weather, but points out the days best for fishing. These days, of course, may be fair days or cloudy, as while clouds or rain have little to do with fishing, they usually come on low barometer, so the old plan is often correct; yet best fishing days are sometimes after a storm, and sometimes before it, or in its midst. This same atmospheric pressure affects not only the human family, but also beasts and insects. There are other atmospheric effects which are cognizant over large or small sections of country that hardly admit of an attempted explanation, like widespread epidemics of influenza, sometimes affecting

men only, sometimes horses or cattle, and then again, all seem to be more or less affected through large sections. "La grippe," so called, during the winter of 1889-90, is an example that almost every hamlet over one-half the surface of the globe was cognizant of.

No carefully practicing physician but what notices also the different effect of medicines in different seasons or years, as well as the great prevalence of some special form of disease, as pneumonia at certain times, or the great prevalence of rheumatism or fevers in certain years, also the tendency of common colds to affect the head, throat, lungs or digestive organs, to say nothing of peculiar periodic diseases, like hay fever or catarrhal diseases, not mentioned above.

But these interesting peculiarities deserve more space than can be allowed me in this report, so I only give in tabulated form the synopsis of the weather for the last year, hoping to encourage observation and abler pens than my own to give the resultant facts deduced from them.

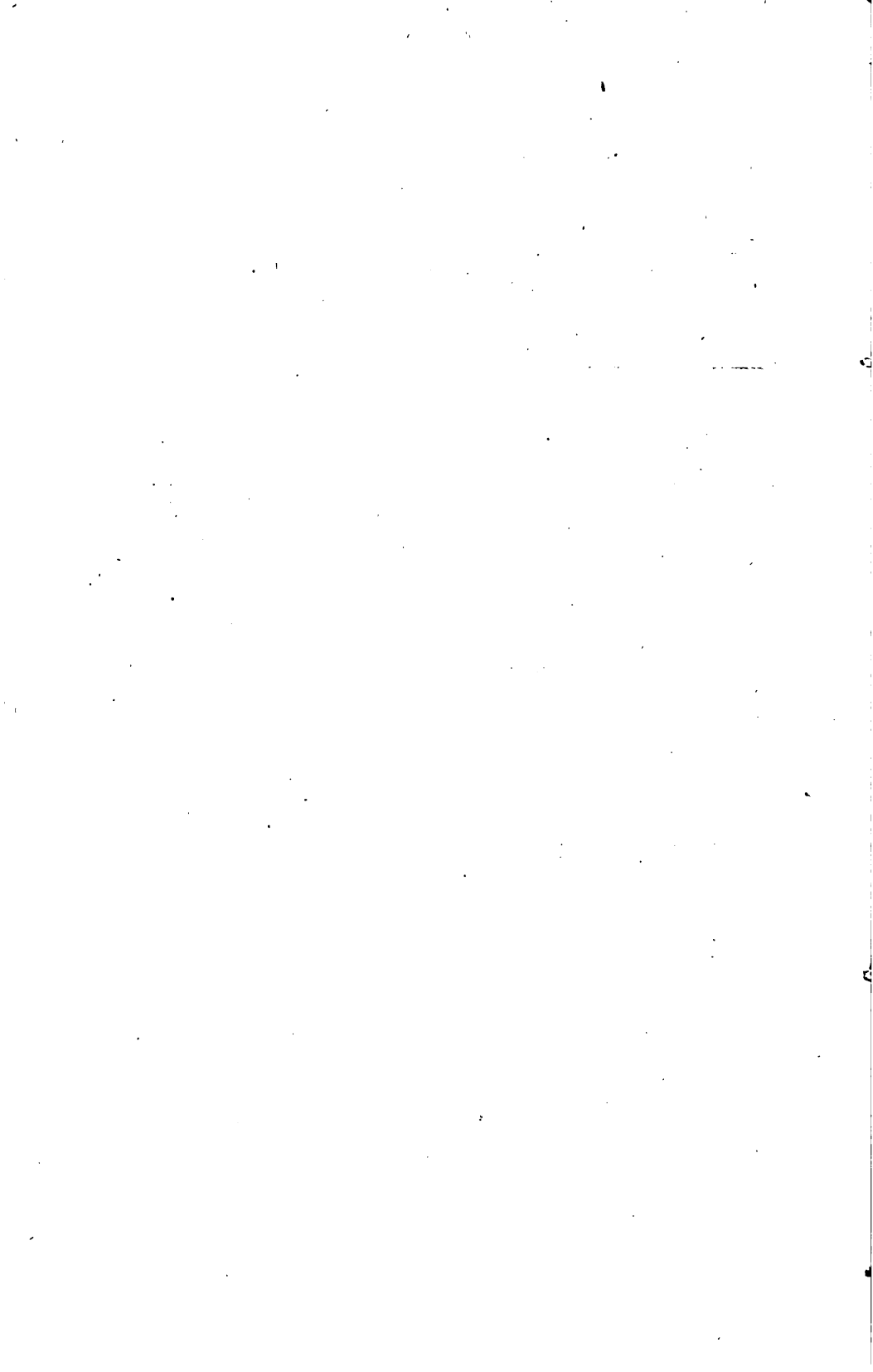
SUMMARY FOR DECEMBER, 1889.

Highest barometer during the month, 31st.....	29.25
Lowest barometer during the month, 20th.....	28.38
Mean barometer for the month.....	28.75
Mean temperature, observations 7 A. M., 2 and 9 P. M.....	24.53 °
Mean temperature, maximum and minimum.....	24.38 °
Mean temperature, maximum.....	29.74 °
Mean temperature, minimum.....	19.03 °
Highest temperature for the month, 25th.....	50 °
Lowest temperature for the month, 8d.....	-15 °
Highest mean daily temperature, 25th.....	40 °
Lowest mean daily temperature, 8d.....	0
Total precipitation in inches of water.....	1.48
Total rainfall in inches of water.....	82
Greatest rainfall in one day, 11th.....	35
Total snowfall in inches.....	6.65
Greatest snowfall in one day in inches, 25th.....	4
Depth of snow in inches on ground at close of month.....	3
Number of fair days.....	18
Number of clear days included in fair.....	8
Number of cloudy days without storm.....	1
Number of stormy days in which .01 or more of rain fell.....	12
Prevailing direction of wind in morning.....	W.
Prevailing direction of wind at night.....	W.
Maximum hourly velocity during the month, 12th.....	35 miles.
Rain storms, dates of, 11th, 18th, 20th and 21st.....	
Frosts, dates of.....	0
Snow storms, dates of, 14th, 15th and 25th.....	
Ozone, on scale of 10.....	4.35

ANNUAL SUMMARY FOR 1889.

	Barometer, Mean in Inches.	Ther. Mean, 7 A. M., & 9 P. M.	Ther. Maximum, Mean.	Ther. Minimum Mean.	Ther. Mean From Min. & Max.	Ozone Scale of 10.	Rain in Inches.	Snow in Inches.
January	28.77	26.25	32.03	20.48	26.25	5.20	3.53	16.
February	28.85	14.74	24.25	4.36	14.30	3.00	1.84	18.
March.....	28.48	30.50	39.35	22.00	30.67	3.50	4.30	17.50
April.....	28.78	46.16	56.33	34.30	45.36	4.00	1.00	6.
May.....	28.78	59.91	70.65	51.48	61.06	7.25	3.02
June.....	28.83	68.14	80.03	58.83	69.43	8.50	5.43
July.....	28.85	68.25	77.06	64.97	71.01	7.75	5.37
August.....	28.89	67.84	77.70	58.74	68.22	6.85	1.74
September.....	28.88	61.14	69.26	53.20	61.22	7.25	5.17
October.....	28.83	43.43	52.25	35.93	44.09	8.35	3.56	.50
November.....	28.86	38.03	46.57	30.46	38.52	8.65	3.61	4.50
December.....	28.75	24.53	29.74	19.03	24.38	4.35	1.48	6.65
Sums.....	345.55	548.92	655.22	453.78	554.51	74.65	40.05	69.15
Means.....	28.79	45.74	54.60	37.81	46.20	6.25	3.33	9.84

This has seemed to farmers a wet season, as so much rain fell in May, June and July, but the amount of rainfall for the year is within a small fraction of an inch what the average has been for the last 45 years. The rain storms have not been as regular during the past 15 years as formerly, this fact being accounted for by the extensive cutting off of the forests in this section, which here, as in all other places, seems to affect the rainfall, rendering it more erratic and uncertain.



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